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The rise of Chinese herbal healing, PAGE 16





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Black mark for half of primaries

Back-to-basics demand as schools fail

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITION

are falling below acceptable standards, the Chief Inspector of Schools said yesterday in a critical annual report demanding an overhaul of teach-

Chris Woodhead pointed to widespread literacy and numeracy problems, and greater use of streaming according to ability although he stopped short of demanding a wholesale return to traditional teaching. His report confirmed weak-

identified in last month's poor test results for 11year-olds and Gillian Shep-hard, the Education and Employment Secretary, immediately armounced that school league tables for the age group would be published

Mrs Shephard, who resisted the move a fortnight ago, said the level of concern was such that performance tables bad become a priority. "It seems to me that after these two sets of evidence about what primary schools are producing, we are being made fully account. able and that the results are transparent for all to see." Primary schools were the main targets for criticism in

yesterday's report, which is based on 3,500 inspections by the Office for Standards in Education Mr Woodhead said that basic numeracy and literacy remained causes for concern, together with the teaching of children between the ages of seven and 14: The teaching of reading was

HALF of all primary schools "mediocre or poor" in many cellent lessons than other and four out of ten secondaries junior schools, with two little tional method which involves sounding out letters. In math-

ematics, number work was neglected and progress was disappointing". Mr Woodhead said there were twice as many excellent teachers as poor ones, but he stood by his previous estimates that 15,000 were incompetent and should be sacked if they could not be retrained. Those teaching the four years

Beacons of excellence Page 6 Chris Woodhead ___ Page 18

er and 11, often had insufficlass teaching alongside the midwicheal machine that occupied three-quarters of the primary school day.

Mr Woodhead for more grouping by ability - only 4 per cent of primary school lessons were streamed; compared with 60 per cent in secondary schools.

The proportion of junior school lessons judged unsatis-factory dropped from 30 per cent to 21 per cent, but Ofsted said that last year's high figure came from only 80 inspections. Junior schools were still producing more unsatisfactory and fewer ex-

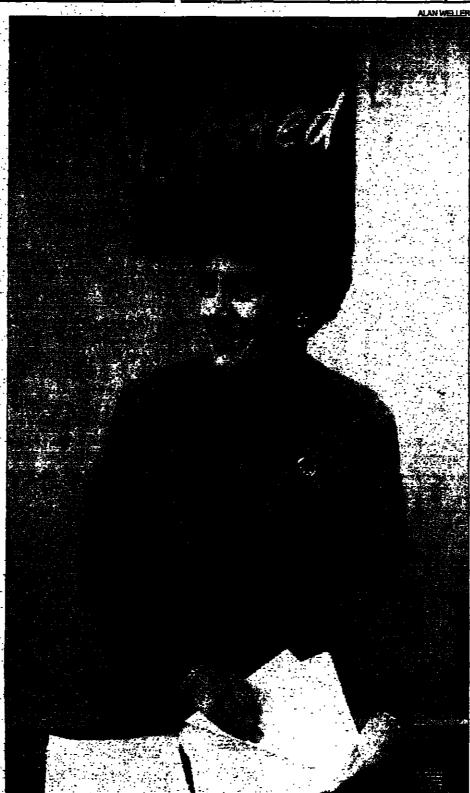
named 200 highly successful year. Two thirds of the 'out standing" secondary schools were selective and a third of all the secondaries listed had "opted out".

Mrs Shephard said that the success stories should be congratulated and held out as an example to all, but there was still a long way to go. David Blunkett, the Shadow Education and Employment Secretary, described the report as a very serious indictment of the Government's record on primary schools. The difficul-ties being faced particularly by seven to 11-year-olds highlight the need for strong action at this level

insisted that it was "wrong and simplistic to blame teachers burdened with an overloaded curriculum for poor standards. They pointed to disruptive children, uncaring parents and himited

The National Union of Teachers also crincised Mrs Shephard's plans to publish performance tables for 11year-olds. Doug McAvoy, the general secretary, said: "Parents have a right to receive information about the quality of education their children receive. Snapshot inspections and crude league tables do not provide this."

The National Association for Primary Education said league tables would have a seriously damage standards.



Gillian Shephard ordered league tables after double indictment of junior schools

Blizzards warning as snow sweeps over Britain

By Russell Jenkins and Gillian Bowditch

high winds across much of Britain last night and motoring organisations warned drivers to prepare for a hazardous journey to work today.

Weather forecasters said the snow would settle and temperatures would hover around zero until the end of the week, when another weather front gathering over the Atlantic

may bring further snow.
The big chill is arriving from the west where a "typical" Atlantic system has been sucking in south-easterly winds from the Continent. The London Weather Centre said: We expect most places, with the exception of East Anglia and parts of Kent, to have some snow by this morning."

The storms, increasing to blizzards in some areas, began yesterday in Scotland, Wales and Dartmoor and Exmoor and moved south and eastwards throughout the night. Weather warnings were issued for Lancashire, Wales and the South West.

In Scotland, many mountain routes were declared im-passable, with Dumfries and Galloway the worst affected. Falkirk and Stirling in Central region also had heavy snow and a number of roads across the country were blocked, including the northbound carriageway of the M74 from Carlisle to Glasgow. The AA described conditions as treacherous.

Wales was also badly affected, with the Horseshoe Pass in Clwyd, and the Rhigos, Bwlch, Maerdy and Llanwonno mountain roads in Mid-Glamorgan all impassable. Many rural roads in Dyfed, Powys and Clwyd were also hit.

Thousands of children in Scotland, Wales and Cumbria were sent home and all

SNOW was being driven by schools in the Rhondda Valley were closed.

> Nuclear workers spent the night at the Sellafield complex in West Cumbria because show drifts prevented them getting home. All roads south to Barrow had drifts up to 6 ft deep and trains were unable to use the coastal line to the Furness area.

In Falkirk, Sheriff Albert Sheehan was so concerned that a 60-year-old vagrant would perish in the freezing conditions that he passed a prison sentence on humanitarian grounds. John Bain, who has lived rough for eight years, was jailed for 60 days after admitting a breach of the peace. Sheriff Sheehan said: "If I don't send him to prison, he will walk out of here into that weather which is going to get worse."

MPs and agencies representing vulnerable groups, including Age Concern and Help the Aged, meanwhile renewed their demands for changes to the Government's cold weather payments system, which they believe is unfair and unpredictable.

> Photograph and Forecast, page 24



US warns China over war games

The Clinton Administration warned China yesterday that planned military exercises in the strait opposite Taiwan would aggravate tension and lead to political instability in

the region.

Washington believes the exercise, intended as a method. of intimidation before Taivan's presidential elections in March, may be at least as large as last September's which involved 40 ships and 100 aircraft Pages 15, 19

Ashdown writ

Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, began libel proceedings against the West-ern Daily Press, which published allegations about his personal life. On Thursday be defendant in a case of wit on Mr Ashdown is likely to ask for reporting restrictions to be lifted Page 2.

The Times on the Internet http://www.the-times.co.uk





BBC in injury time push to keep big sports events

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY AND ALICE THOMSON

THE BBC launched a fierce last-minute campaign yester-day to prevent Britain's biggest sporting events being broadcast only on satellite television.

As peers prepared for a knife edge Lords vote on televised sport, senior BBC figures pledged to spend more on sport to compete against satellite companies. Reers will vote tonight on Broadcasting Bill amendments aimed at keeping listed sports events like the FA Cup, Grand National and the Olympics on terrestrial television.

A large all party group of peers is lining up to support an amendment which would

ensure that eight listed events cannot be shown exclusively on subscription channels such as those operated by BSkyB. Senior government sources concede that the vote will be extremely tight and that the outcome may depend on the worsening weather which is

likely to prevent many peers

from attending. Last night Will Wyatt, managing director of BBC network television, took the unusual step of briefing journalists at the Commons on the BBC's plans for sports coverage. He said that, as well as protecting listed events, terrestrial stations should have the rights to buy highlights of non-listed events, such as the golf Ryder Cup or the rugby union Five Nations' Championship, if a

exclusive live coverage. Con-ceding that the BBC faced new pressures when bidding for sporting contracts, Mr Wyatt said that there would be much more money made available, although he refused to specify the amount.

In a letter to The Times today, six senior executives of Britain's sports bodies strongly defend BSkyB's involvement, saying that it had broken "the cosy terrestial duopoly" increased the finan-cial benefits to sport and heightened media coverage.

Labour peers are optimistic they can defeat the Government but they concede that the weather may prove crucial.

MPs' pay inquiry to be announced

Ry PHILIP WERSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

A WIDE-RANGING independent inquiry into the pay, allowances and pensions of MPs and ministers is expected to be announced by the Gov-

The Senior Salaries Review Body, which already recommends pay levels for judges, senior civil servants and top military officers, is likely to be asked to report by June.

The announcement of the investigation by the body, led by Sir Michael Perry, head of Unilever, follows discussions over the past few days between the party leaderships and reflects their wish to defuse the present controversy over their

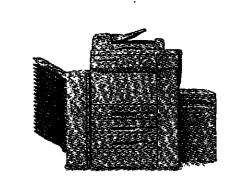
MPs have been accused by Letters, page 19 poverty groups of political

insensitivity but most of them believe that pay must be improved if their parties are to attract parliamentary candidates of quality. While average pay has risen by 80 per cent over 30 years, MPs'

salaries have remained static. However, if the inquiry reports in the summer and recommends substantial rises, the Government is likely to face a difficult decision over whether to accept it in full, urge restraint or leave MPs to decide on it. In the past the Commons has overruled the Government's call for caution, most recently over a big increase in allowances in 1993.

Labour is keen for any decisions on pay to be to taken

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SHARP

Colombo stumped as teams lose their nerve security of the sort usually reserved for

SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT

THE cricket World Cap was thrown into turnoil yesterday when the West Indies joined Australia in asking that their games in Sri Lanka should be rescheduled because of lears for the safety of their teams.

With the 12 nation tournament being held in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka and the Indian section due to start on Sunday, the organisers are trying to balance the demands of the visiting icams and of the Sri Lankan Government. Colombo is outraged by the players.
Australian and West Indian attitude. The Sri Lankans have offered tight

After the terrorist bomb attack in Colombo last week that devastated the centre of the capital and killed more than 80 people and injured 1,400. Australia asked Pilcom, the threecountry organising committee, to reschedule their match on February 17. When they refused, the Australians

decided to forfeit the match. The Australian action was followed by the West Indies Board of Control which asked for their fixture in Colombo, on February 25, to be moved to either India or Pakistan for the "safety and peace of mind" of their

heads of state if the two teams change their decision. Neither Zimbabwe nor Kenya, the other two nations due to play matches in Sri Lanka, have made any announcement about not fulfilling their fixtures. Denis Rogers, the chairman of the

Australian Cricket Board said there were legitimate fears for player safety, despite assurances from the Sri Lankan Government that maximum secunity would be provided to the teams and officials.

Lakshman Kadirgamar, the Sri Lankan Foreign Minister, said he had no sympathy for Shane Warne, the

team could be victims of a bomb if they went shopping. "There is no use going shopping in Colombo for a one-day match. Shopping is for sissies." Mr Kadirgamar also said the Aus-

tralians, if they wanted to, could stay in India or the Maldives instead of Colombo. Helicopters would fly them from the international airport to their hotel, 21 miles away, and on the day of the match. Even the route from the hotel to the nearby Premadasa Stadium would be declared out of bounds.

> Leading article, page 19 World Cup chaos, page 48

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Questions move shamelessly from legover to rollover

Madam Speaker says so. Tony Banks (Lab, Newham NW) started the trouble. Raising a point of order after questions yesterday, he asked the chair. "Is there anything you can do to dissuade Honpurable Members of this House from writing works of fiction about our proceedings?

There is a book that is currently being sold, written by the Hon Member for Derbyshire S [Mrs Currie]

Members drinking them-selves into oblivion and bonking their eyeballs out.

"Unfortunately this isn't the case [laughter] and I do feel that we need to be protected from such unfounded allegations." There was a murmur of sympathy — as much we regret to report from her colleagues as from Labour. Miss Boothroyd herself has

surely not combed A Woman's Place for personal references. There can therefore be and the page in Mrs Currie's Speaker is described as calling time after questions "like a Northern barmaid". So how would she reply to Banks? "Don't buy it," she shrieked, "and don't read it."

If I have any sense of Currie's instinct for publicity, this will appear on the sleeve of the paperback edition of A Woman's Place, by Edwina Currie. "Tacky" - Evening Standard. "Don't buy it: don't



ture of ourselves?

Sadly. Currie herself was

not in the chamber for these

jollities. Had the subject for

isn't the bonking or boozing stories that really infuriate Mrs Currie's colleagues. It's the fact that she's earning greater fame and more money than they, doing what they do but more shamelessly.

هكذا من الرجما.

Ouestions Arts and National Heritage driven her away? In Currie's spectacular tal-Did she perhaps fear an unfavourable comparison with ent for self-promotion they recognise what they, too. Proust? She need not have

sport, or national heritage in their questions to the Secretary of State. enrages more than a carica-

As elsewhere in Britain, nobody discusses anythingbut the National Lottery. Television viewers without satellite dishes may face a blackout on major sporting events; the Royal Opera may face a funding meltdown; galleries and museums cry out for cash: and the Greeks want the Elgin Marbles back ... but all

have virtually given up seri-

scratchcards, double-rollovers and Mystic Meg.

Of the 27 questions down for answer yesterday, ques-tions 5-7, 12-17, 20, 22-25, and 27 were about the lottery. Even the man who started it. Peter Brooke, the former Heritage Secretary, is getting nervous. Yesterday he asked his successor, Virginia Bot-tornley, whether she feels pleasure at, or concern about, the fact that more than half the questions on the order paper are about the National

this vinegar for wine and burbled merrily away about what an immense success the [1 Lottery was:

But then you could hand Mrs Bottomley a sackful of jelly babies and she would. burble merrily away about the huge increase in the number of jelly babies under the servatives. The more I see of this woman's ability to burble merrily away about anything which comes to hand, the more considerable a political talent I recognise.

Fraud police poised to launch inquiry into rail claims

By Jonathan Prynn and James Landale

BRITISH Transport Police is prepared to launch a full legations of ticket fraud at LTS Rail, the train franchise that was pulled from the brink of privatisation at the weekend.

The force's fraud squad has had talks with British Rail officials who are carrying out an inquiry. Sir George Young, the Transport Secretary, told MPs that BR "won't hesitate to call in the British Transport Police if that seems appropriate in the light of their investigations".

MPs were also told that the franchise for the London, Tilbury and Southend line -which had gone to a management buyout team - may be put out to tender again. Sir George said the decision would be taken by Roger Salmon, who is the franchising director.

The Transport Secretary had earlier celebrated the successful sell-off of the first two franchises, South West Trains and Great Western, during a ceremony at Waterloo station, London. Hundreds of thousands of commuters travelled to work on the privatised rail services for the first time yesterday. Sir George said: "We have reached a truly historic point in the revival of Britain's

railways. under way into the claims that LTS Rail ticket staff were involved in a scheme to divert London Underground to the franchise. The scheme is said to have started when the LTS management was awarded

the franchise in December. The results of the inquiries — by John Swift, the Rail Regulator, BR and London Underground — are expected later this week and the Government hopes to be able to proceed with the sale of LTS

important that those taking over the stewardship of assets being transferred from the public sector to the private

sector are, and are seen to be, acting in the public interest." Barbara Mills, Director of Public Prosecutions, is considering a letter from Brian Wilson, Labour's rail spokesman, in which he demands a full police inquiry into the allegations of fraud" at LTS.

Colin Andrews, LTS commercial director, has already resigned and Ian Burton, the retail manager, was suspend-

The buyout's backers, the



Young: said "BR won't hesitate to call in police"

venture capital groups 3i and Gresham Trust, were standvesterday. "We have not withwe are waiting the outcome of the investigations," Paul Murray, of 3i, said.

The Government is believed to favour awarding the franchise to the second-placed bid if the management buyout cannot proceed. Two of the defeated bidders for LTS Rail. Prism and GB Railways, said yesterday that they would be interested in rebidding if the ext month. management buyout were Mr Swift said: "It is very abandoned. "We are watching developments with interest," Kenneth Irvine, chairman of

Answering an emergency question yesterday, Sir George assured the Commons there was no question of financial irregularities being tolerated in a modern railway. whether it is publicly owned or privately owned".

Pressure to reopen the tendering process came from Clare Short, the Shadow Transport Secretary, "Will you now give us an undertak-ing that the offer to allow this management team to run this service will be withdrawn, because they have shown themselves to be a corrupt management team . . .?" Amid Tory protests, she added: "...

if the allegations are true." Sir George said a routine audit had disclosed the irregularities. But last night an anti-privatisation campaigner, Keith Bill, said that an LTS employee had told BR of the alleged fraud.

The claims are said to centre on the re-issuing of tickets at a station used both by mainline and Tube trains. London Underground is said to have been deprived of a portion of the fare - estimated to total £30,000 a month.

London Underground managers were last night said to be increasingly concerned that the financial irregularities uncovered could be repeated at stations across the network.

The company fears that private rail operators could be tempted to "launder" sales of London Transport passes through stations such as Surbiton, Surrey, where the oper-ator is allocated the bulk of the revenue. "We are now checking carefully to see if there are any areas where we may be exposed to risks in order to make sure we have robust procedures in place to avoid similar potential losses to those alleged," London Under-



Paddy Ashdown announcing libel proceedings against the Western Daily Press

Ashdown sues over 'smear'

BY ALICE THOMSON POLITICAL REPORTER

PADDY ASHDOWN issued libel proceedings yesterday against a regional newspaper that published allegations about his personal life. The Liberal Democrat leader also vowed to tackle head-on the "scourge of terrorisation and intimidation" in his Somerset constituency and said he was determined that criminals in Yeovil

would be brought to book. Mr Ashdown condemned the article in the Western Daily Press as "utterly disgraceful". He told a press conference: "My solicitor is in touch with them and libel proceedings will be issued." Mr Ashdown declined to discuss the allegations. Mr Ashdown was warned by police at the weekend that he is facing a vendetta by

Recent attacks on Mr Ashdown include the connection with the firebomb attack.

firebombing of his Vauxhall Senator car last week, threatening letters and an incident when he was allegedly held at knifepoint in Yeovil late at night. At one stage the police set up surveillance equipment in the garden of his thatched cottage in Norton sub Hamdon.

He is due to appear in court this Thursday as a witness against a man accused of assault on him. The defendant is likely to ask for reporting restrictions to be lifted. Mr Ashdown has been involved in investigations concerning alleged race attacks in restaurants, but the police say there is no racial motive in any of the incidents

they are studying.
Yesterday Mr Ashdown said: "I am not repared to be dissuaded from taking action. That is what the town has suffered from for so

Scott to retaliate over denigration of report

By NIGEL WHLIAMSON, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

SIR Richard Scott will tomorrow enter the propaganda war over his report into the armsto-Iraq affair with a plea to John Major to treat his findings "without preconception". In his first public utterance since completing the report, he will show his anger at at-tempts to discredit his conclusions before publication next week. Sir Richard will also counter-attack Lord Howe of Aberavon, the former Foreign Secretary, and others who have criticised his methods.

The judge's warning to the Government not to play party politics with his report will come in an interview to be broadcast on the Channel 4 Dispatches programme on the

is delivered to Downing

Robin Cook, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, is to voice Labour's dismay that while the Government will get eight days to prepare a defence, the Opposition will not see the vast report until half an hour before it is presented to the Commons, on February 15 apparently for legal reasons. The report is being published under the 1840 Parliamentary Papers Act to prevent Sir

Richard being sued for libel. Labour is also unhappy that the judge has decided not to produce a summary of the report. Sir Richard's judgements are regarded in legal circles as being woven day the 1,800-page document sometimes obscurely - into a

long narrative. A source close to the inquiry said that there would be "a highlighting of conclusions" and an index. The Government will pro-

duce its own summary and

Labour believes that ministers hope to blur the criticisms, garnering favourable news coverage before anyone outside Whitehall has had the opportunity to digest the report. By the time politicians and journalists have chewed over the small print, the Opposition fears that public interest may have waned and those likely to be most criticised in the report - William Waldegrave, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, and Sir Nich-olas Lyell, the Attorney-General - may keep their jobs.

£40m wrongly paid to training schemes

More than £40 million was wrongly paid by the Department of Employment to government training programmes last year, the public spending watchdog has found. Sir John Bourn, head of the National Audit Office, said he was "concerned" at the errors, an increase of more than Ell million on the previous year.

He warned the department, new combined with education, that he would scrutinise next year's accounts to check controls had improved. Almost half of the overpayments were made to training and enterprise councils. The rest were wrongly paid to individuals on the Training for Work and Learning for Work programmes.

Child bride stays put

Sarah Cook, the 13-year-old from Essex who went through an Islamic wedding ceremony with an unemployed Turkish waiter she met on a family holiday, decided yesterday to postpone coming home for least another night. Sarah, who was due back in Britain last night, is still in the village of Kahramanmaras in southeast Turkey, where she has been living with her "husband's" family. Musa Komeagac, 18. was arrested and charged with statutory rape two weeks after the service. He is due in court again on February 15.

Scratchcards proliferate

Four big charities launched their own scratchcards yesterday in direct competition to Camelot, the National Lottery operator. Age Concero, Cancer Research Campaign, Scope and the National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children joined forces, under a scheme called Partners in Action, to raise £4 million this year from the sale of more than 16 million El scratchcards. The top prize will be £50,000. The cards will be issued both collectively and individually under the name of each of the four charities.

Benefit cut setback

The Government's move to withdraw welfare benefits from most asylum seekers suffered a serback yesterday when a judge allowed a High Court challenge to go ahead tomorrow. Mr Justice Brooke agreed to allow the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants to apply for judicial review of the new benefit regulations, which are designed to save £200 million a year. However, he refused to allow a stay on the introduction of the rules, which came into force yesterday and are intended to stop bogus claims.

Lost job appeal

A headmaster has claimed he was wrongfully and unfairly sacked after allegedly failing to account for almost £2,000 from the sale of school uniforms a few months after he was awarded an OBE for services to education. Chris Hampson, 52, was dismissed last year from St James Church of England secondary school in Farnworth, Greater Manchester. An industrial tribunal in Manchester was told yesterday that Mr Hampson allegedly stole £1,988 in commission from the sales. The hearing continues.

Kents to pay reward

A Brighton antiques dealer can expect a "substantial" reward after handing porcelain figures stolen from the Duke and Duchess of Kent's home to the police. The unnamed dealer saw a picture of the pair of Chinese pheasants and realising they were identical to the pair he had just given to Sotheby's, the auction house, for valuation, he alerted Sussex Police. They have interviewed several people in connection with the find. The Kents are offering anundisclosed sum for the recovery of missing items.

Queen 'should repent'

A Free Presbyterian minister in the Outer Hebrides has called on the Queen to "kneel down and repent of her sins" because he claims she has broken her vow to be faithful to the Protestant religion. The Rev Kenneth MacLeod, of Leverburgh, a leading churchman on the Isle of Harris, says in the Free Presbyterian magazine that God has been "conspicuously dishonoured" by the Queen's attendance at ecumenical services and at a Roman Catholic service taken by Cardinal Hume at Westminster Cathedral last year.

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Hospital issues two-tier waiting lists

By JEREMY LAURANCE. HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

A HOSPITAL in Sheffield is offering to treat patients re-ferred by GP fundholders up to four times more quickly than those from non-fundholding GPs.

Patients requiring hip replacement surgery at the Roy-al Hallamshire Hospital have to wait 52 weeks if they are referred by a non-fundholding GP but can get their operation in L2 weeks if they are referred by a fundholder.

The disclosure, on the eve of a government debate on GP fundholding in the Commons. was seized on by Labour as the clearest evidence so far of the two-tier service ushered in by NHS reform. It follows reports last week that Glasgow Royal Infirmary was offering

of fundholder GPs.
The Central Sheffield University Hospitals NHS Trust, which includes the Royal Hallamshire, has issued a table of prospective waiting times to GPs and health authorities which shows that the waiting time for cardiology is 26 weeks for patients from non-fundholders and 12 weeks from fundholders. For neurology it is 38 and 14 weeks

Harriet Harman, Shadow Health Secretary, said: "We must have a health service which treats people on the basis of their clinical need and not on the purchasing power of the health authority."

MP tells judges to stop sniping

By Frances Gibb, legal correspondent

influential Home Affairs Select Committee has warned judges that they will lose public respect if they continue to criticise the Government in the latest comment in the

dispute between judges and the Home Secretary over plans for tougher sentencing, Sir Ivan Lawrence, QC, said that judges should not make public criticism of government "If the judges want to ex-

press their views, they can express them through all sorts of channels, privately and quietly, and it might have more effect." He added that, even if the proposals were defeated in the Lords, the Commons would seek to reverse that defeat "as we did with the War Crimes Bill".

The judges, he said, had to realise that "they don't make the law. Parliament makes the law and the reason why the Home Secretary might want such laws is that he is account-

THE MP who chairs the able to Parliament and to the people in the way that the judges are not." He added: "People ought to look up to judges. They are

outside the political arena; they are not the ones who make the law but they are the ones we should look up to for enforcing it. But once they come out into public, and start rowing with the Government on something on which the public is on the Government's side, the public will think less of the judges."

An array of senior judges have attacked Mr Howard's plans for tougher sentencing. to be outlined in a White Paper this spring. They include Lord Taylor of Gosforth, the Lord Chief Justice; Lord Justice Rose, a Court of Appeal judge; Lord Donaldson of Lymington, former Master of the Rolls: and Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, a former Lord

Ministers believe Province will vote within months

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

GROWING confidence that elections paving the way to all-party talks in Northern Ireland will be held within months was voiced by senior ministers yesterday after John Major completed his first round of talks with the political leaders.

The Government believes that, in spite of their initial strong reservations, the nationalist Social Democratic and Labour Party, Sinn Fein and the Irish Government will eventually come round to elections as the "passport" to talks.

An informed ministerial source likened the current round of discussions to people dancing round the bonfire. poking at the flames". He said that eventually they would go along with elections and that both Sinn Fein and the SDLP had been careful not to rule out taking part.

Even so, ministers are taking seriously the warnings of a within the Northern Ireland potential split within the IRA Police Authority over propos-Law, pages 37, 39 over the peace process. "We als to reform the Royal Ulster

know that 30 per cent of them were against it in the first place — it is always a risk But we think that is another reason why Sinn Fein will want to use the elections route." Mr Major met John

Alderdice, leader of the Alliance party, yesterday. The political leaders will now have detailed talks with Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, and his deputy Michael Ancram, before having a second round of discussions with Mr Major. Mr Alderdice said the meet-

ing had been "very encouraging and worthwhile". He had urged Mr Major to seek elections "as quickly as is humanly possible" and to reassure nationalists that they would lead to serious all-party negotiations. Dr Alderdice said he wanted to see elections

by April or May.

A fierce row has broken out

Constabulary to make the force more acceptable to Roman Catholics.

Unionist members of the authority have threatened to table motions of no confidence in David Cook, the chairman of the authority, over his plans to question the RUC's use of

British symbols. In a forthcoming report Mr Cook is expected to say that if the RUC is to create a neutral working environment it must examine issues such as flying the Union flag



Professor rediscovers rocky landscapes immortalised in galleries across the world

.. Art detective uncovers Cézanne's inspirations

ARTS CORRESPONDENT

AN AMERICAN scholar who has spent 30 years following in the footsteps of Cezanne has tracked down the settings for a dozen of his best-known

Pavel Machotka, Professor of Psychology and Art at the University of California, Santa Cruz, has dated and retitled some pictures after finding locations in Provence and on the outskirts of Paris.

One of his discoveries, as he travelled through France seeking to match hundreds of photocopied images toplaces, was that a church which had long been assumed to be in Aix-en-Provence was at Montigny-sur-Loing, in the

For decades, its ambiguous title was no more than Village Church. Professor Macholica said that it could have been any one of a hundred similar churches in France. Drawing on the locals for guidance, his detective work led him to the building.

As a surprising number of landscapes have remained as Cézanne would have known them, the professor was able to find clusters of trees or groups of stone houses set against rocky landscapes, and to take colour photographs of them in the same light that



Cézanne: seif-portrait

the Rocks at Estame, sculpted by nature. The rock formation had never been seen before. It was obviously a bay at Marseilles, but nobody had found the formation. The motif is unchanged except for high-tension wires. It was extraordinary. I was looking at what Cézanne was looking at. After several hours of climbing, I had found the

The professor's findings are published this week by Yale University Press, coinciding with the exhibition at the Tate Gallery that opens on Thursday. The first Cezanne retrospective since 1936, it is expected to be one of the gallery's most successful

First Call, the advance booking agency, has already bro-ken records set by ticket sales He recalled how he found for the Monet exhibition and

tive estimate. Cezanne sold barely any of his works and was not given a solo show until he in his late fifties. Matisse would have thought the show was long overdue: in his eyes, Cézanne was a "god

Among some 90 paintings and 70 watercolours to be seen at the Tate are images that Professor Machotka matched to their locations. Using colour: explore physical surface, col-our relationships and the extent to which Cezanne was painting exactly what his eye was seeing.

"Cézame had a passionate attachment to visual reality," he said, "Unlike other scholars who have viewed Cézanne as an early Cubist, I view him as a painter determined to extract as many visual resonances between the components of the motifs as possible."

Montagne Saint-Victoire at 9.30am, something that had never been done before he was able to show the gradual progression of colours from blues to greens which the master subtly incorporated into his paining and the shadows which he transformed into dramatic diago

nal, semi-abstract lines. In The Lake at Annecy, one of Cezanne's most famous

Professor Machotka's first photograph of the scene shows how similar it is today. A composition that was formerly titled La Saint-Victoire, Environs de Gardanne, he has retitled as Hamlet near Gardanne. He was able to pinpoint its isolated location

by searching for places where a hillside might macro diswith the foot of the Sanne Physics. by a gradual approximation. I eventually found the hamlet at the end of a narrow road. edge of a field." He added that judging by the low sun and the brown meadows. Cezanne had painted it late in the year and at 10.30am.

The professor said: "A photograph of the site of a wellknown painting arouses our curiosity right away: it breaks open the sealed world of the For example, in taking a ment, and reminds us that an colour photograph of La artist searches, gazes, at times disssembles, and recombines. that we will better understand the artist's purpose and vi-

> It was impossible to find some sites, particularly those in Paris, which had changed beyond recognition or the town of St Henri, near Marstreets had been buildozed to









Top: vaguely titled as Village Church, the scene at Montigny-sur-Loing. Above: the Courtauld's Lake at Annecy

Guppy freed after compensating Lloyd's for fraud

By Richard Ford, home correspondent

from jail yesterday after paying a large sum of compensation to Lloyd's insurers, whom

he defrauded of EL8 million.
Guppy, 30, left: Ford open
prison in Sussex shortly after
sam after serving almost three
years of a jail term imposed
for staging a footis gents
robbery in New York.
The old Frontan an Order

The old Etonian, an Oxford Isabella.

raduate, was released from He had been convicted with jail after paying part of a E227,000 compensation order imposed by Redbridge magis-trates last July. The court had ordered him to serve two years and nine months' further imprisonment after he failed to

David Reynolds, a solicitor representing Lloyd's insurers. said last night: "He has paid the funds due under the compensation order."

It is understood that Guppy. of Notting Hill, west London. did not pay the full amount, as the final sum takes into account the time he has served in prison since last July.

Under the terms of the deal, Guppy has also reached a deal with his Trustee in Bankruptcy to provide further payments to Lloyd's of London and his other creditors. Mr Reynolds said: "He has agreed to pay further sums in due course. I cannot tell you how much. There is a confidentiality

Earlier civil proceedings against Guppy had been set-tled after he pledged to pay the



Guppy: served almost three years in jail

after his release. He hoped to

media.

Cipply, who is a friend of Earl Spencer, the brother of the Princess of Wales, was driven from the prison for a regimen with his wife Patricia. and the couple's daughter

earn the moneh from writing

his co-accused Benedict Marsh at Snaresbrook Crown Court in February 1993 for faking a jewellery robbery in New York in 1990 and claiming £1.8 million insurance. He was sentenced to five years and a further three were imposed after he failed to pay the compensation.

At his trial he was said to have boasted of pulling of the "perfect crime". Guppy set up the fraud with Marsh, a friend from Oxford. The two were partners in a firm, Inca Gemstones, and while in New York in 1990 paid an associated £10,000 to tie them up and supposedly rob them at

gumpoint. It fooled New York police and insurance loss adjusters. After returning to London, the pair presented false invoices for £1.8 million worth of stones and were paid by a number of underwriting sydnicates with-in a week. The following day, Guppy and Marsh flew to New York to retrieve the jewels from a safe deposit

Guppy had been best man at Earl Spencer's wedding, and the earl put up half of Guppy's £500,000 bail when he and Marsh were arrested in 1991 for the gems

Guppy, who had studied for his degree at Magdalen College, was reported to have converted to Islam while in Sudbury prison near Ashbourne, Derbyshire. Guppy said that every morning he read prayers with a group of Muslims at the jail.

His family's origins are Iranian. His wife is a Roman Catholic from Sunderland. for escaping.

Man jailed 18 years after killing father

ing father and buried his body in the cellar where the remains lay undiscovered for 17 years, the Old Bailey was told yesterday. Stephen French kept a promise to his mother that he

When she died of a heart attack he made an oblique reference to the killin funeral, the court was told.

It was not until he was in prison on remand for robber cell and described how, when he was 14, he shot his father as he slept and put his dismembered body into two oil drums at the family home in Roches-ter, Kent. When they moved house three months later to Forest Gate, east London, the drums went too and were

French, 32, denied murdering his father, Peter Leslie, but admitted manslaughter. He also pleaded guilty to a string of robberies, attempted robberies and escaping from custody. He was jailed for a total of 18 years.

French, his mother and three elder brothers and sisters were beaten and threatened by the powerfully built Leslie, nicknamed "Gypsy Pete", who was obsessed with guns. He knocked out his children's teeth, blacked their eyes and broke their ribs.

Once he forced the young French to eat a meal of kitchen waste that included dog food, bleach and sink cleaner. French wept in the dock as Rock Tansey, QC, in mitigation, said: "It was a childhood of staggering evil which affected throughout his adult life."

Sir Lawrence Verney.the Recorder of London, accepted that French had had an appalling childhood "but that did not justify the solution". He jailed him for five years for manslaughter, 12 for the robberies and a further year

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MORTGAGES

Hi-tech drivers locked out

BY NICK NUTTALL TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

MOTORISTS are being locked out of their cars by radio hams, the Automobile Association disclosed yesterday. The hams' broadcasts.

can jam remote locking devices that beam coded radio

signals to the car. scores of members in Bucking hamshire who had found themselves unable to open or

shur their cars.

ties have allowed car manufacturers to use a frequency for their remote control keys that was already allocated to radio hams. "When a radio ham is transmitting, the signal is so strong that in some cases motorists near by cannot acti-

alarm or immobiliser sys-The AA said that it had Mr Lang said research was recently been called our to help urgently needed on car security systems to minimise interference.

A radio ham can use up to 100 watts of radio frequency Dave Lang, the associa- power to transmit all over the nised problem but we are bion's chief engineer, said: world. Remote control keys hardly at panic stations."

The European radio authori- use up to 0.01 of a watt and work over a range of 5 to 15 metres.

· According to the AA, the only solution for a car immobilised by a blocked radio beam is to be towed outside. the influence of the radio ham's transmitter. The remote control devices come with a vate their car's central locking. metal key, but that is for turning on the ignition only. Trying to use the key to open the door will trigger the vehi-

de's alarm system. A spokesman for the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders said: "It is a recog-

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"...BEFORE ACCEPTANCE AS A SUITABLE RISK TO THE PRIVATE MEDICAL INSURANCE POLICY, THE SAID PATIENT IS CONTRACTUALLY OBLIGED TO SATISFACTORILY COMPLETE A MEDICAL **EXAMINATION AS CARRIED OUT BY THE** PATIENT'S GENERAL PRACTITIONER OR BY AN INDEPENDENT MEDICAL EXAMINER AS APPOINTED BY THE INSURER. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES OF THE SAID POLICY, IT IS ALSO MANDATORY THAT THE AFOREMENTIONED MEDICAL EXAMINATION BE CARRIED OUT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GUIDELINES AS LAID DOWN BY THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION. PENDING RECEIPT OF THE AFOREMENTIONED MEDICAL EXAMINATION REPORT IN TRIPLICATE AND IN CONJUNCTION WITH FORM VB129394, AND THAT'S THE AMENDED 1994 VERSION, THE PATIENT SHALL BE LIABLE FOR ALL FISCAL RETRIBUTION TOWARDS THE COST OF ALL TREATMENT INCLUDING IN-PATIENT TREATMENT, OUT-PATIENT TREATMENT, CONSULTATIONS, DAY-CASE TREATMENT AND ALSO TREATMENT BY A SPECIALIST. THE PATIENT WILL ALSO BE LIABLE FOR THE EXPENSE OF ANY TREATMENT OF ANY PRE-EXISTING CONDITION NOT SPECIFIED DURING THE COURSE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINATION AND DIAGNOSED PRESENT AT ANY TIME WITHIN FIVE YEARS PREVIOUS TO THE DATE OF ACCEPTANCE OF LIABILITY BY THE INSURER. PAYMENT OF ANY CLAIM IN REGARD TO ANY PRE-EXISTING CONDITION DIAGNOSED PRESENT PRIOR TO FIVE YEARS PREVIOUS TO THE DATE OF ACCEPTANCE OF LIABILITY BY THE INSURER IS AT THE INSURER'S DISCRETION, IN THE EVENT OF ANY DESPUTE, THIS ACREMENT WILL RESURECT ONLY TO THE JURISLICTION OF THE COURTS OF THE UNTED KINGDOM OR AT THE ELECTION OF BOTH PARTIES TO ARBITRATION UNDER THE HUS OF THE PERSONAL INSURANCE ARBITRATION SERVICE OR THE CHARLESOD INSULUTE OF ARBITRATORS ALSO BE LIABLE FOR THE EXPENSE OF AN TENDENT OF ANY PRE-EXISTING CONDITION NOT SPECIFIED DURING THE COURSE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINATION AND DIACNOSED PRESENT AT ANY TIME WITHIN FIVE YEARS PREVIOUS TO THE DATE OF ACCEPTANCE OF LIABILITY BY THE INSURER, PAYMENT OF ANY CLAIMIN RECARD TO ANY PRE-EXEMISCONDIUM DIAGNOSED PRESENT PRIOR TO FIVE YEARS PREVIOUS TO THE DATE OF ACCEPTANCE OF LIABILITY BY THE INSURER IS AT THE INSURER'S DESCRETION. IN THE EVENT OF ANY DEPUTE, THIS ACREDMENT WILL BE SUBJECT ONLY TO THE FIRISDICTION OF THE COURGS OF THE UNITED KINCDOM OR AT THE ELECTION OF BOTH PARTIES TO ARBITRATION UNDER THE RULES OF THE PERSONAL INSURANCE ARBITRATION SERVICE OR THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF ARB WITHIN FIVE YAGREDMENT WILL BE SUBJECT ONLY TO THE JURISDICTION OF THE COURTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OR AT THE ELECTION OF PRIOR TO FIVE YEARS PREVIOUS TO DATE OF ACCEPTANCE OF LIABILITY BY THE INSURER IS AT THE RECORDER'S ELECTION OF BOTH PARTIES TO ARBITRATION UNDER THE RULES OF THE PERSONAL INSURANCE ARBITRATION SERVICE OR THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF PAYMENT OF ANY CLAIM IN REGARD TO ANY DEFENSE THIN SOUDITION DIACNOSED PRESENT PRIOR TO FIVE YEARS PREVIOUS TO THE DATE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF INC. THE PREVIOUS TO THE PREVIOUS YO THE DATE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF IME WITHIN FIVE YEARS PREVIOUS TO THE DATE OF PREVIOUS TO THE DATE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF IME WITHIN FIVE YEARS PREVIOUS TO THE DATE OF IME WITHIN FIVE YEARS PREVIOUS TO THE DATE OF IME WITHIN FIVE YEARS PREVIOUS TO THE DATE OF PREVIOUS TO THE DATE OF PREVIOUS TO THE DATE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF IME WITHIN FIVE YEARS PREVIOUS TO THE DATE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF IME WITHIN FIVE YEARS PREVIOUS TO THE DATE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF IME WITHIN FIVE YEARS PREVIOUS TO THE DATE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF IME WITHIN FIVE YEARS PREVIOUS TO THE DATE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF IME WITHIN FIVE YEARS PREVIOUS TO THE DATE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF IME WITHIN FIVE YEARS PREVIOUS FOR THE DATE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF IME WITHIN FIVE YEARS PREVIOUS FOR THE DATE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF IME WITHIN FIVE YEARS PREVIOUS FOR THE DATE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF IME WITHIN FIVE YEARS PREVIOUS TO THE DATE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF IME WITHIN FIVE YEARS PREVIOUS TO THE DATE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF IME WITHIN FIVE YEARS PREVIOUS TO THE DATE OF T TO THE DATE OF THE DATE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF IME WITHIN MYE YEARS PREVIOUS TO THE DATE OF UNDER THE RULES OF THE PRESONAL INSURANCE ARBITRATION SERVICE OR THE HE PRESONAL INSURANCE ARBITRATION SERVICE OR THE HE PRESONAL INCOME OF THE UNITED ENGLISH OF THE HELITAGREEMENT WILL BE SUBJECT ONLY TO THE PRESONANCE OF THE UNITED THIS DATE OF THE UNITED THE PRESONANCE OF THE UNITED THIS DATE OF THE UNITED THE PRESONANCE OF THE UNITED THIS DATE OF THE UNITED THE OF THE UNITED THIS DATE OF THE UNITED THE OF THE PRESONANCE OF THE UNITED THIS DATE OF THE UNITED THE OF THE UNITED THE UNITED THE OF THE UNITED THE UNITED THE OF THE UNITED THE

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Helpline staff struggle to ., prevent smear tests panic

AND JEREMY LAURANCE

FRESH doubts about the accuracy of cervical screening tests carried out on millions of women were raised yesterday as a hospital disclosed that it would re-examine 70,000 cervical smears because of an unacceptable error rate.

The Kent and Canterbury Hospital was deluged with calls from hundreds of anxious women after it revealed that its detection rate for abnormal smears had fallen below the expected standard.
Instead of picking up between
85 per cent and 95 per cent of abnormalities, over five years abnormalities, over five years screening took over adminis-its detection rate was between tration. Laboratories have 65 per cent and 75 per cent A' helpline set up to deal with the alarm had taken more than 1,000 calls by early evening. A team of 40 operators is telling women that the results of every screening made between 1990 and 1995 will be reexamined. They will be contacted by letter within 14 days. The check of all results will cost at least £140,000, and it is expected that about 350 women given a clean bill of

health will now be told they are in the risk category. The case is the latest in a series of scandals involving smears being inadequately taken or read which has undermined public confi-

gramme began in 1988, offeryears to women aged 20 to 64. After five years of the programme the number of women screened was 80 per. cent of the age group, with 4,000 cases of invasive cancer and 18,000 cases of pre-cancer being detected annually. About 1,000 to 2,000 lives a year are saved. In 1994, after it was found that several smears were unreadable and that there were local variations in the proportion of abnormalities, the national co-ordinating team for breast

dence. Failures at the Canterbury hospital were attributed to inadequate training and experience of laboratory staff and had been uncovered during routine checks. Dectors said it was likely that other hospitals had similar error

received guidelines.

However, Julietta Patnick, mational co-ordinator of the cervical screening programme said that a detection rate of between 65 per cent and 75 per cent was unusually low. Laboratories were expected to compare their results with the national guidelines and inves-

has happened at Canterbury is a symptom of things being put right. If we didn't look we wouldn't find anything

The hospital said the threat to health was "minimal" because the wrongly diagnosed smears showed early abnormalities and cervical cancer normally takes between 10 and 15 years to develop. Dr Kate Neales, consultant gynaecologist at the 428-bed hospital, said: "We are not looking at one individual who has failed. If anything it is a systems Women may have to wait

months for the results. Dr Neales said: "It is extremely unlikely that any of these women have cervical cancer." The problem came to light in October when analysts took the test results of a handful of

women with abnormal smears and compared them with their last normal test. Some, supposedly normal smears were found to have abnormalities when re-examined.

After that random exercise another 10,909 smear tests independently reas-

and 89 mistakes found. Now all 70,000 tests will be re-screened in batches of 10,000 at a time. The screening, which costs £100 million a year nationally, involves taking cells from the neck of the womb. Deaths from cervical cancer in England and Wales fell from 1.485 in 1993 to 1.369 in 1994. In east Kent there were 19 deaths in 1993 and the figure is falling in line with the rest of the country.

Helpline callers were told the risk was minimal but women in Canterbury did not seem reassured. Christine Mc-Kay, 29, who had her last smear test 18 months ago, said: They say not to worry but how do you know? You would have thought in this day and age they could get

things right."
Gill Nicholls, 37, said: "I have had two smears and I feel really uptight about this. I feel angry that they have not done their job properly and that women who thought they were in the clear might have to wait months to find out." The helpline number



Conservationists hope the poisoned food will enable the red squirrel, left, to survive at the expense of its grey cousin

Wildlife saviours to poison squirrels

GREY squirrels are to be poisoned by conservationists in an experiment aimed at saving the rapidly dwindling native

Food laced with warfarin, which kills by causing internal haemorrhaging, will be placed in special hoppers on Anglesey. Previously the Ministry of Agriculture has prohibited the poisoning of greys for fear that reds might also die. But the Forestry Commission has designed a feeding hopper with a flap-door that it people will be unhappy but we are not believes only the stronger greys can open. There are about 1,000 grey squirrels on the Welsh island, compared with 50 reds. Malcolm Smith, director of science and policy at the Countryside Council for Wales, said: "This project is the only way we have left permanently to conserve a

red squirrel population in southern

trying to eradicate greys. The aim is to keep their numbers to a level that permits co-existence with reds."

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals said: "We would much prefer the squirrels to be trapped in cages and humanely dispatched, but we recognise that such a method would be

Surgeon sues over Dr Dolittle tag

By RICHARD DUCE

Court libel trial yesterday that to hospital in Leeds but he became the sacrificial lamb subsequently died in an attempt by Virginia Mr Percy, 55, advised from Bottomley to deflect criticism his home by telephone late at from a national shortage of night that efforts should be from a national shortage of neuro-surgical beds after a patient was flown 200 miles.

Anthony Percy, a consultant orthopaedic surgeon, became known as Dr Dolittle in the criticised in an internal investigation for failing to attend the Queen Mary Hospital, Sidcup, where Malcolm Murray, 45, was taken with serious ues today.

A DOCTOR told a High head injuries. He was flown

made to trace a bed elsewhere because there was no clinical

help he could offer.

Mr Percy is suing Mirror Group Newspapers for libel over the article published on March 29 last year and two further reports in the same newspaper. The publisher denies libel and the trial contin-

Rig to be broken up pill start on land legal fight

Shell UK announced yester-day that it will break up a North Sea gas platform on land at a cost of £11 million. The 6,000-tonne Leman BK platform stands 45 miles off Lowestoft, Suffolk.

In June Royal Dutch/Shell abandoned plans to scuttle the Brent Spar oil platform in the Atlantic after it was occupied by Greenpeace.

GP reprimanded

A GP who let his unqualified son treat patients at his surgery in Whitehaven, Cumbria, was reprimanded by the General Medical Council. Brian Moss, 53, wrongly believed that Bruce had started at medical college.

Case dropped

Klaus Wagner, who was ar-rested outside the Princess of Wales's fitness dub last month, is not to be prosecuted. The Crown Prosecution

Service said there was insufficient evidence to substantiate a charge of obstruction.

Illegal line up

An Oxford University student fitted an illegal line to make £10.826 of calls to his Hong Kong family. Kar-Wing May, 28, admitted dishonestly obtaining a telephone service. He will be sentenced later by Oxford magistrates.

Fat cat sacked

A hospital cat that sits on patients' laps and helps them to relax needs a new home because he weighs two stone. A spokesman for Knowle Hospital in Fareham, Hampshire said: "Patients can't pick him up any more."

CORRECTIONS

☐ In the obituary of Marcia Davenport (January 31) the date of her mother's wedding was wrongly given as 1906. In fact, Alma Fiersohn married Bernard Gluck in 1902

The London-based newsletter Foreign Report is published by Jane's Information Group (report, January 27). made."

Victims of malaria

By Nigel Williamson

MORE than 130 people began a legal action yesterday against the manufacturer of a widely used anti-malaria drug that can cause serious psychological side effects. The number involved in the

group claim for compensation from the maker of Lariam has almost doubled since two news reports in *The Times* last month highlighted the dangers. Christiane Goaziou, the solicitor who is heading the action against Roche, the man-ufacturer, said: "We realise that this is a David and Goliath battle but we will still try to win."

Last night the BBCl programme Watchdog produced further evidence of the drug's side-effects, which in the most extreme cases can include manic depression, fits and

panie attacks. Sue Woodford, who is married to the Labour peer Lord Hollick, told the programme: I got very frightened. The reaction was so extreme. I thought I was having a brain haemorrhage. This was the

effect of taking just one pill." Roche says that its research indicates only one in 10,000 users has serious side effects. although more than 20 per cent experience a lesser reaction. "Serious" is defined as death, hospitalisation or

isability.

Doctors continue to prescribe Lariam for travellers to equatorial Africa, the Par East and the Caribbean because it is by far the most effective anti-malaria drug, working in 95 per cent of all cases. Last year 11 British travellers died from malaria.

In a statement last night Roche said: Effective drugs have side effects. Roche Products has always stated that Lariam can cause a range of side-effects and the product data sheet says that the inci-dence of such side-effects is known to be 22 per cent."

The company said that it was in continuous discussions with the British regulatory authority. "If in the course of that dialogue it is considered appropriate to make any changes to the product information, those changes will be



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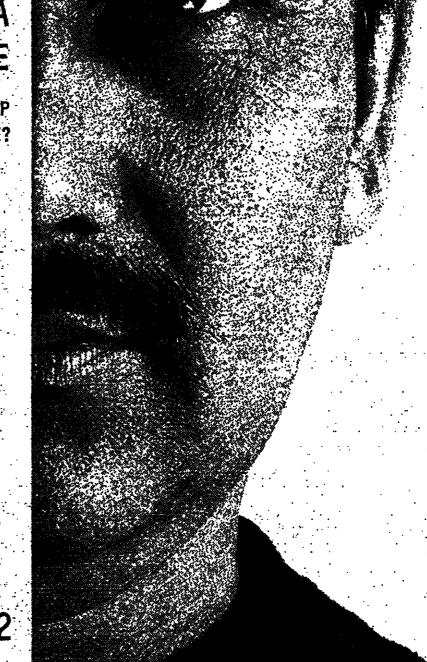
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HOME NEWS

Shephard hails triumph for champions of selective entry and hints at more to come

هكذا من الرحماء

Education crusader singles out 200 beacons of excellence

CHRIS WOODHEAD, the held up 200 schools as beacons of excellence yesterday and urged thousands to follow their example in a crusade to raise standards. For the first time, he listed the best schools visited by inspectors in the past year, handing a publicity coup to supporters of selective

As disclosed by The Times last month, grammar schools dominated the education "Oscars" given to outstandingly successful secondary schools. accounting for 22 of the 32 awards. Nine comprehensives and one city technology college also featured.

The report also named 70

go. "We cannot ignore the chief inspector's judgment that overall standards of pupil achievement need to be raised in half our primary schools and two-fifths of our secondary schools." Independent schools complained they had been left out even though they are also examined by Ofsted, the in-

> Vivian Anthony, secretary the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference, said: "If it is right and proper for Ofsted to inspect a given

ten "highly effective" special Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary, promised to congrat-

Schools that are surely by anyone's reckoning among the best in the country are not on Ofsted gave very good re-ports to four schools which are

members of the conference last year: Westminster, Shrewsbury, King Edward's in Birmingham and the City of London School. A spokesman for Ofsted said: "We have only managedto inspect about 20 indepen-

proportion of independent

schools, then surely they must

be treated in the same way

when it comes to recording

good results and inspections.

dent schools this year and it would have been ridiculous to set them against the 3,500 inspected in the state sector." One in three of the gram-mars inspected was said to be outstanding compared with one in 50 comprehensives.

concern, Mr Woodhead lays

most of the blame on poor

teaching. "Many schools need

to tackle urgently mediocre

and poor standards by review-

ing the quality and consisten-

cy of teaching in order to set

The Office for Standards in

Education, which Mr Wood-

head leads, is launching an in-

quiry into the teaching of

mathematics, reflecting fears

that too little time is dedicated

to arithmetic. Yesterday's re-

port also suggests that the

teaching of reading contains

too little emphasis on phonic

Mr Woodhead said the apentered at least 95 per cent of pupils for GCSEs, achieving

largely by their selective in-take. Mrs Shephard said she an average points score equivalent to at least nine GCSE had "absolutely no problem" grade C passes each. with more selection, and the

His annual report highlighted success in difficult circumstances. Sudbourne Primary School, in Lambeth. local authority in Brixton, was named an excellent primary. Yet in October Mr Woodhead ordered an inspection blitz on every school in the south London borough after one in three was found to be failing. Sudbourne is just a mile from one of the worst schools

seen by inspectors. Mostyn

found by inspectors not to have spoken for three years. Inspectors pointed to Sudbourne's long-serving "calm and greatly admired" head teacher, a caring atmosphere and enthusiasm for books among the pupils. The

Children at Sudbourne Primary School in Brixton, which puts children in sets according to ability. It was praised for its excellent standards

apart from music was sub-

standard and one child was

according to ability in reading and mathematics, and encourages children to recite their times tables. The Ecclesbourne School, a

among the elite secondary schools. Dr Robert Dupey, the head teacher who has been in post for 20 years, pointed to tried and tested teaching methods for the school's allround high standards.

Derby, was awarded a place

Dr Dupey said: "I have seen lots of heads who move in, do their thing and move out again, leaving their mistakes behind. The only dogma here is about doing the best for the young people."

Chris Woodhead, page 18

Inspectors to identify poor staff

luder offered

By JOHN O'LEARY **EDUCATION EDITOR**

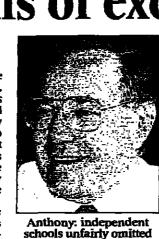
INSPECTORS' reports will provide head teachers and vernors with new information to help to dismiss incompetent teachers from April.

The latest annual report suggested there were up to 15,000 poor teachers, and 48,000 that could be considered "first-rate".

The new inspection framework will oblige teams from Ofsted to name outstanding teachers and those regarded as particularly weak. Chris Woodhead, the Chief Inspector of Schools, said it would be up to heads and governors to decide how to use the informa-

considering dismissal. Allowing for appeals, the dismissal process can take up to a year once governors have decided that, it is the only option. Labour has promised to speed dismissal procedures but has given no details of its

training and support before



schools unfairly omitted mary and middle schools, five

excellent nursery schools and

good and improving second-

OUTSTANDING SECONDARY SCHOOLS

These schools entered at least 95 per cent of their pupils for GCSE, per cent of their pupils for GCSE, achieved well above average in the proportion getting five high-grade passes and an average of at least nine passes at grade C. They had excellent inspection reports and exceptional extra-curricular provision.

ylesbury Grammar, Bucks larton Court Grammar, Canterbury, Kent amden School for Girls, London Camen School for Girls, London
Cape Comwall, Truro
Cheimsford High for Girls, Essex
Colyton Grammar, Devon
Copthall, Barnet, London
Dartford Grammar, Kent
Dr. Chelloner's Grammar

Dr Challoner's Grammar Amersham, Buckinghamsh Ecclesbourne, Belper, Derbyshire Emmanuel CTC, Gateshead Harrogate Grammar

Woodhead: urges action

icta Grammar for Girls Maidstone, Kent Kendrick Girls' Grammar,

Reading King Edward VI, Handsworth, Birmingham Birmingham
Presdales, Ware, Hertfordshire
Cueen Elizabeth's Boys', Barnet
Ringmer Community College,
Lewes, East Sussex
Royal Grammar, High Wycombe
Sir Henry Royd Grammar,
Aylasbury
St Thomas More Catholic High,
Crews

Crewe Grammar School for Girls, Wilmington, Kent The Herrietta Barnett School,

West Kirby Grammar for Girls,

BY OUR EDUCATION EDITOR

THE later years of primary

education and the start of

secondary school are identi-

fied as the problem years of

state education in Chris

ever pool of information

assembled on schools shows a

dip in standards between the

ages of seven and twelve. The 3,500 inspections undertaken

in 1994-95 showed more les-

sons taught poorly to that age

group, confirming weaknesses

exposed in last month's test

results. With basic literacy

Woodhead's annual report.

More than half the top schools are single-sex, with ten girls-The King's School, Granthem The Liverpool Blue Coat N Halifax Grammar, Illingworth only and eight boys. Thirteen outstanding secondaries are grant-maintained.

pearance of so many gram-mars in the list was explained

ment's belief that choice and diversity contributed to ex-Mr Woodhead said the top schools were chosen because they also offered a "rounded development" with exceptional out-of-hours activities, and

presence of grammar, special-

ist and grant-maintained

schools among the success stories vindicated the Govern-

"disturbing" shortages of

books and materials in one in

seven primary schools and

one in four secondary. "Teach-

or who work in poor buildings

experience problems which

But he says that poor teach-

ing can be found in the best

equipped schools. Some re-

source problems flow from

spending decisions by local

authorities and schools them-

selves, not government fund-

ing. Other inquiries will

examine the distribution of

efforts to do a decent job."

Report identifies problem years of failure from 7 to 1 resources and local authority effectiveness in raising stan-

> Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secers who lack proper resources 22 retary, said the report showed that the quality of teaching and leadership, not resourc-There is no comfort in this verdict for anybody who wants to hide behind a lack of resources for giving a less than competent lesson."

Although the proportion of unsatisfactory lessons appears to have dropped to about one in five, most statistics in the report point to broadly similar levels of underachievement to previous years. Standards of teaching and achievement are "satisfactory or better" in most

schools, Mr Woodhead says. lespectors found standards of reading required "considerable improvement" in one in writing in one in seven. In the early secondary years, they found under-schievement in one in five schools. In mathematics, pupils performed well in just over two fifths of primary schools and about half of secondary schools. But

by age 11, inspectors found

"too many pupils remained

reliant on their fingers for counting, are unable to use a ruler correctly and are wild in Mr Woodhead said the good

news in his report was that some schools were achieving so well, including many in The bad is that there are still too many which are failing to give their pupils a satisfactory education."

In many junior schools, teachers showed insufficient knowledge of their subject, inadequate planning, a failure to stretch pupils and left them

Boycott parents demand special

Muslim lessons BY PETER FOSTER

MUSLIM parents who have withdrawn; 1,500 children from multifaith religious education classes in West Yorkshire yesterday demanded exclusively Islamic lessons.

The parents from Batley met fellow Muslims who successfully campaigned for Birchfield Primary School, Birmingham, to be come the first state school to make its own arrangements for Muslim religious education. Muhammad Pandor, the Batley spokesman, said: "We intend to follow suit and wish to discuss the matter with

Kirklees council." Muhammad Mukadam, the leader of the Birmingham parents, who is against withdrawing children, said: "The representa-tives seemed to like our. ideas very much. They have now gone back to Yorkshire to discuss it further within their community."

Mr Mukadam said that it made seuse for Muslim parents across Britain to follow the precedent set by Birmingham. He said that he had already had inquiries from Muslim leaders in the London borough of Tower Hamlets, where an estimated 30,000 to 40,000 Muslims live.

The pressure group Parental Alliance for Choice in Education, which helped the Birmingham Muslims with the legal and educa-tional implications of their decision, was also represented at the meeting. Fred Naylor, the alli-

ance's secretary, said that it

had offered the same sup-



Mukadam: pioneered state Muslim classes

port to the Batley parents. He believed the events begun in Birmingham could snowball, affecting every Muslim parent in Britain. Mr Naylor also urged Christian parents to push for their children to have an undiluted religious education. "I hope that ... this multifaith, progressive education nonsense is blown sky-high."
A spokesman for Kirk-

lees Borough Council said: "The situation in Kirklees is totally different to Birmingham. There are more than 40 schools affected by this, and I can't see how one school in Birmingham could set the pace." Further discussions with the parents were planned.

Stephen Orchard, director of the Christian Education Movement, questioned the legality of the decision to opt out of agreed multifaith syllabuses. He said that the 1988 Education Act, which provides for local agreement of religious education, was designed to prevent each denomination having separate classes.

Good secondaries and excellent primaries

SECONDARY SCHOOLS Very large majority of pupils entered for GCSE; in-creased the proportion getting five A-C grade passes by more than the national average; increase of more than 10 percentage points between 1992 and 1994. All had very good inspection reports. All Hallows RC Secondary, Famham, Surrey

Allerton Grange, Leeds
Altrincham Boys' Grammar, Bowdon, Trafford
Archbishop Blanch School, Liverpool
Archbishop Sandcroft High, Harleston, Norlolk
Backwell School, Bristol Archbishop Sandcroft High, Harleston, Norlolk Backwell School, Bristol Brookvale High, Leicester Central Foundation Girls', Tower Hamlets, E London Convent and Jesus & Mary GM High, Brent, London Craribourne Secondary, Basingstoke, Hampshire Gillingham School, Gillingham, Dorset Guissley School, Guissley, Leeds Hall Green Secondary, Hall Green, Birmingham Healing Comprehensive, Grimsby, Humberside Heart of England School, Balsall Common, Solihull Helsby County High, Wartington, Cheshire Holmer Green Upper, High Wycombe, Bucks Holy Cross RC High, Chorley, Lancashire Honiton Community College, Honiton, Devon Ibstock Themps High, Manchester Lowen High, Wigan Manhood Community College, Chichester, W Sussex Monkweamnouth School, Sunderland Mount St Joseph School, Bolton Newquey, Tretherras School, Newquey, Comwell Notre Dame High, Hereford and Worcester Priory High, Hereford and Worcester Priory High, Drmskirk, Lancashire Purbrook Park, Waterlooville, Hampshire Queen's Park County High, Chester Sacred Heart of May PKC, Uprninster, Havering Sandon High, Stoke-on-Trent Sandringham School, Chippenham, Wiltshire

Sir Joseph Williamson's Maiths, Rochester, Kent Smestow School, Wolverhampton St Edmund's RC, Portsmouth St Gabriel's RC High, Burn, Lancashire St Hilda's RC High, Burn, Lancashire St Hilda's RC High, Burnley, Lancashire St John Fisher RC High Wigan St Mark's RC Secondary, Hourslow, W London St Mary's RC High, Layland, Lancashire St Patrick's RC High, Stockton-on-Tees St Paul's RC Comp, Abbey Wood, SE London St Peter's C of E High, Stockton-on-Tees St Paul's RC Comp, Abbey Wood, SE London St Peter's Collegite School, Wolverhampton St Thomas More School, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex Tadcaster Grammar, Tadcaster, N Yorkshire Teign School, Rewton Abbot, Devon The Abraham Darby, Telford, Shropshire The Burgate School, Fortingbridge, Hampshire The Casile School, Fortingbridge, Hampshire The Grange School, Stourbridge, Dudley The Grey Coat Hospital, Westminister The Hugh Christie, Toribridge, Kent The Hugh Christie, Toribridge, Kent The Snaith, Goole, Humberside Trinity C of E High, Greenheys, Manchester Weavers GM, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire William Howard School, Brampton, Cumbris Worle School, Weston-super-Mare, Avon

MIDDLE SCHOOLS Middle, primary and nursery schools judged to give pupils a "secure start" and "high standards of literacy and numeracy"; also to "maintain a positive ethos and manage their resources effectively".

Abbotswood GM Middle, Southampton Aston Fields Middle, Bromsgrove, Herer d & Worcs Chattont St Giles Middle, Buckinghamshire Emmanuel Middle, Verwood, Dorset Gossforth Middle, Newcastle upon Tyne Lake Middle, Sandown, lale of Wight Modfleld Middle, Reddiich, Herer d & Worcs Necton VC Middle, Swaffnam, Norlolk

PRIMARY SCHOOLS Alexandra Infant, Kingston upon Thames All Saints C of E, Barnet, N London

Alphington Combined, Alphington, Devon Alverstoke Infants, Gosport, Hampshire Bare Trees, Chadderton, Odham Besucierc (Controlled), Sunbury-on-Thames Berkeley Infants, Scumtrorpe, Humberside Bettuse Park, Hull Bishop Witton C of E. Whetstone, Humberside Bolling Road First, Ben Phydding, Bradford Bolton County Infant, Warnington, Cheshire Branscombe C of E Primary, Seaton, Devon Broad Lane C of E Primary, Pulborough, W Sussex Bushey Manor Junior Mixed, Watford Cheriton Kings GM Infants', Chekenham Christ the King, Coundon, Coventry Common Road First, South Kirkby, Wakefield Crofton Junior, Orpington, Bromley Crosshaft Junior, Humfingdon, Cambridgeshire Crowlands Junior, Romford, Havering Delion Infant and Nursery, Dalton, Kirdees Dawpool C of E Primary, Thurstaston, Winsi Debden C of E Primary, Thurstaston, Winsi Debden C of E Primary, Saffron Walden, Essex Devoran County Primary, Turo, Comwall Edenthorpe Hall First and Middle, Doncaster Etching Hall Primary, Rugeley, Staffordshire

Edenthorpe Hall First and Middle, Doncaster Eching Hill Primary, Rugeley, Staffordshire Filiwick Lower, Bedford Front Street Primary, Whickham, Gateshead Garnston C of E (Aided), Retford, Nottinghamshire Great Missenden C of E Combined, Buckinghamshire Grant Missenden C of E Combined, Buckinghamshire Halfway Infant, Halfway, Sheffield Hantford Manor CP, Northwich, Cheshire Hernpshill Hall Primary, Nottingham High Fernley First, Wykde, Bradford Higher Bebington Junior, Wirtal Horbury St Peter C of E Junior, Walkefield Keston Junior, Coulsdon, Croydon Larly Boswell's C of E (Aided), Sevencaks, Kent Larly Boswell's C of E (Aided), Sevencaks, Kent Larlydale, Newcastle under Lyme, Staffordshire Leckhampton C of E, Cretternham, Gloucestershire Lovington C of E, Castle Cary, Somerset Lovington C of E, Castle Cary, Somerse Malifoy Manor Infant, Rotherham Maiby Manor Intant, Rotherham
Monkhouse Primary, North Shields, N Tyneside
Morley Primary, Derbyshire
Nether Alderley CP, Macclestfield, Cheshire
North Kelsey Primary, Lincolnshire
Calclerie Primary, Prescot, St Helens
Catlands Intant, Harrogate, N Yorkshire
Old Hutton C of E, Kendal, Cumbria

Pickering County Junior, Pickering, N Yorkshire Polebrook C of E, Peterborough, Cambridgeshin Richmond Hill First, Sprotbrough, Doncaster Riddings Infant School, Afrekon, Derbyshire Roediffe C of E, York, North Derbyshire Rothwell Infant, Kettering, Northemptonshire Samuel Whites Infants, Hartham, Avon Sir Harold Jackson School, Sheffield Sir Harold Jackson School, Sheffield
Snape County Primary, Bedale, N Yorkshire
Southwark Infant, Nottingham
Southwater Infant, Horsham, W Sussex
St Bede's RC Infant, Widnes, Cheshire
St Bontface RC, Salford, Greater Manchester
St John's C of E, Princes Risborough, Bucke
St John's C of E, Sandown, Isle of Wight
St Many's C of E Junior, Dollis Park, Barnet
St Many's C of E Junior, Bedrachem, SE Look St Mary's RC Primary, Beckenham, Selner St Mary's RC Primary, Beckenham, SE London St Winifred's RC, Lewisham, SE London Sudbourne Primary, Lambeth, S London Sudbourne Primary, Lambeth, S London Sudbourne Primary, Lambeth, S London Sudbourne The Forest Primary, York Westerton Junior and Infant, West Ardsley, Leeds Westerton Junior and Infant, West Ardsley, Leeds Wimborne Infant, Southsee, Hampehire Woodlands, Junior, Tonbridge, Kent

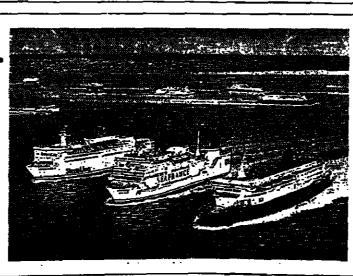
Woodlands Junior, Tonbridge, Kent Wortham Long Green School, Diss, Nortolk NURSERY SCHOOLS A Atkinson Road Nursery, Newcastle upon Tyrie Sir James Knott Memorial Nursery, N Tyrieside Susan Isaacs Nursery, Bolton Truro Nursery, Commell Worsbrough Dale Nursery, Barnsley

SPECIAL SCHOOLS All judged "highly effective" by inspectors

Founteindale, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire Grangewood, Eastcote, Hillingdon, NW London Hindley Borsdane Brook, Wigan Northease Manor, Lewes, E Sussex Park Creecent, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire Patinfield, Barnstaple, Devon Pictor, Sale, Trefford Southell, Telford, Shropshire St Francis, Lingoln St Francis, Lincoln Woodlawn, Whitley Bay, N Tynasida

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Cash-strapped care homes show old people the door

AND RACHEL KELLY

RESIDENTS in a growing number of old people's homes are being put through the trauma of closure and relocation as a financial crisis grips the private care sector.

At least one home a day is being deregistered and thousands are in financial difficulties as owners struggle with falling property values, growing competition from large companies and the impact of government policy to care for old people in their own homes.

There are 21,000 private care homes in England and Wales, of which three quarters care for the elderly. Experts say family-run homes are disappearing as the market is increasingly dominated by big corporations running chains of homes and as council social services departments cut back on referrals and payment of

Chris Vellenoweth, nursing homes project manager at the National Association of Health Authorities and Trusts, said: "Inspectors have had to step in to help relocate residents suddenly when homes have closed without any notice at all. In some cases the gas or electricity has been cut off and there is no means of providing residents with their next meal. These are vulnerable people who are



no new referrals have been

when homes close say the

experience is traumatic. Hazel Hodgkinson transferred her

93-year-old mother, Hilda Eburth, to Abbotsford care

home in Harrogate, North

Yorkshire, after her previous

home, where she had lived for

almost three years, shut because of financial and staff-

people she knew and she had

to start again. It caused a great

She lost contact with all the

homes for two months:

Hilda Eburth, right, had to move when home closed

unable to fend for them-

Health authority inspectors say owners are keeping their inancial difficulties secret until the last possible moment. triggering a crisis and putting old people at risk. Frank Ursell, administrator of the Registered Nursing Homes Association, said: "Nursing homes in receivership are now advertised every week. You never saw that before,"

Ian Wilkie, national healthcare director of Christie & Co. the largest agents in the mar-ket, said he was seeing many more receivership and dis-

Social services departments, which face budget curs, are closing council-run homes. West Sussex, which is seeking £2 million savings, is to close seven homes. In Birmingham when you want security." she

Residents of a home in Scotland were shocked one afternoon last month when scouestrators holding court papers walked in and set about closing it. The owners of Overton Hall, near New Galloway, had been made bankrupt a month before hat had not told them.

Nor had they told Dumfries and Galloway local authority, whose social workers called emergency meetings to work out how to rehouse the six residents, some in their 80s made to private old people's and suffering from senile dementia. Relatives, one family from as far as London, had to Relatives of old people who have been forced to move be called to help. Owners-of care homes say

that the pressure on them increased sharply when the Community Care Act took effect in April 1993. Local authorities, who took over financial responsibility for people in residential care, sought to keep people in their own homes and cut fees. At the same time, inspectors de-

manded costly improvements. Many local authorities have Riell House in Tholthorpe, not increased fee levels since



Eric Milner ran a home for the elderly in Tholthorpe, near York, until rising costs prompted him to close it down

the late 1980s. In Cheshire, the local authority has terminated contracts with nursing homes worth £322 a week and is to

renew them next March at

near York, in December, ran the home for seven years with his wife, a nurse. He is now working on a pig farm.

We were registered for nine residents and we were down to Eric Milner, who closed six, below breakeven point. The inspectors kept demand-

thermostatic valves for the radiators. We couldn't afford it. You can't provide personal

care anymore. We ran the

dents without large savings could get their fees paid automatically by the Department of Social Security. Public spending grew from £10 million to more than £1 billion by

Crofters offered 14m acres of land

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH SCOTIAND CORRESPONDENT

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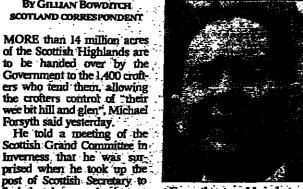
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MORE than 14 million acres of the Scottish Highlands are to be handed over by the Government to the 1,400 crofters who tend them, allowing the crotters control of "their wee bit hill and glen", Michael Forsyth said yesterday.

inverness that he was surprised when he took up the post of Scottish Secretary to find that he was the largest crofting landlord in Scotland. We need to ask whether these estates would not be better run in the inture by local communities themselves rather than a government department which, with the best will in the world, cannot which large estates are bought be as sensitive to a community's needs as those who

actually live there. "We sang at the rugby international on Saturday of our ancestors fighting for their wee bit hill and glen. This Government offers crofters an opportunity to secure that. We are even prepared, if the circumstances justify it, to transfer certain crofts free, he told the Scottish MPs. Mr



Forsyth urged lairds to follow his example

forsyth has called on private Land ownership in the

with concert at the ease with and sold. A crofters' conference three months ago was told that half of Scotland is owned by 500 people, many of them absence landlords.

The new scheme will repreland ownership in the Highlands since the First World War when the Government originally bought the land on 95 estates to provide a living for demobbed soldiers.

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Eat out

Out For £5 offer, starting on Monday, February 12, it is also easily affordable. To apply, cut out the vouchers which are appearing daily in The Times until Saturday, February 17. Each voucher entitles you and up to five companions to dine at more than 400 participating restaurants featured in our guide. (If you missed yesterday's paper, you can order a guide by sending two first class stamps to: The Times Eat Out For 65 offer, PO Box 481, London El 9BD.) All bookings and inquiries should be made by phone to the restaurant and you must mention The Times offer when you make your booking. Corrections: the telephone number of Restaurant 913 in Davenham, Northwich, Cheshire, is: 01606 330913. The Gemini restaurant at Tadworth, Surrey, (page 19 of the guide) is offering one course plus coffee not three courses.



This voucher emittee the bearer and up to five guests to a one, two or three course meal for £5 each at any one of the participating restaurants in The Times Eat out for 25 guide.

CONDITIONS OF USE ns must be made in advance and the voucher presented on actival. The offer applies to the Eat out for £5 menu only at applicable sittings for up to six people. One, two or three courses apply as specified in the guide. Where less than three courses are ed, starters and dessens can be selected from the main menu and the appropriate price must be paid. This offer applies to food only - drinks must be purctissed separately. Where no drinks are purchased, restaurants may charge a discretionary £2 per person cover charge. The offer is valid from February 12 until March 31, 1996. Refer to the guide for full details, days available and whether

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Shadow of Black Wednesday still darkens Tory prospects

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upport for the Tories has at last started picking up, but how real is the upturn? Opinion changes in response both occasional well-publicised shocks (rows, scandals and the like) and to less immediately discernible shifts in underlying

In January 1995, Tory support jumped by five percentage points, and Labour's rating fell by a similar amount, according to the regular MORI polls for The Times. This followed reports of internal Labour arguments over VAT, education and Clause Four. This was

the first check to Tony Blair's previous ascent in the polls. Once he quelled the dissent. Labour recovered much of its previous support. Similarly, the Tories' rating leapt seven points at the end of last June after John Major's initiative over the party leadership A month later, Tory support fell

back again for two months. Once these shocks had worked their way through, it was possible to discern a gradual rise in Tory support, of roughly three percentage points over the year as a whole. This trend was underlined by the last MORI poll, published

ON POLITICS

12 days ago, which put the party on 29 per cent, its highest level for over two years.

This poll was taken before the Harriet Harman affair made its full impact. Party strategists are eagerly awaiting the next polls, from ICM, due tomorrow, and from Gallup, due later in the week. to see how the ratings have moved. But in nine days will come another shock in the form of the Scott report on the Iraqi arms affair. The

tainly damage the Tories. It is impossible to tell what the lasting impact of these shocks will be. The only certainty is that the next month or two's polls will be distorted, probably in both directions, by these shocks.

Current signs of a pick-up in Tory fortunes from the low levels of the 1993-95 period are underlined not just by voting intentions figures but also by other questions about political artitudes. These point to a firming of support, particularly for Mr Major himself, among traditional Tory backers,

A poll of one thousand people who claim to have voted Tory in the 1992 election by the Opinion Research Business for James

Capel has shown the first signs of a return of the "feel-good" factor (measuring optimism about personal finances, the economy and unemployment). The poll, undertaken between January 25 and 28, suggests that the improvement is especially marked among previous Tories who have switched to other parties. There is not yet evidence of any improvement in the Tories.

sample, but the pollsters reckon that some of the factors necessary to achieve this are beginning to turn, not just the "feel-good" factor but also Mr Major's personal standing. He is a big asset for the party. Moreover, even among those who have switched away since 1992, the enterprise economy (a Tory slogan) is preferred by two to one over the stakeholder economy (Labour's slogan). However, a clear majority of these 1992 Tory supporters think Labour will win the next election, and there

are worries that the Tory party has

I and mous swung too far to the right It is uncertain how long it might take for such stirrings of better feelings about the Tories to translate into firm votes. My hunch is that it will be very hard, if not impossible, for the Tories completely to reverse the record drop in their economic competence and leadership ratings as a result of Black Wednesday, sterling's forced exit from the European exchangerate mechanism in September 1992. That still looks like the decisive event of this Parliament.

PETER RIDDELL

ill in colt

Lilley to announce pensions boost for small firms' staff

By Nicholas Wood, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

pension schemes will be extended to the staff of small firms under plans to be unveiled by Peter Lilley tomor-

Such workers largely missed out on the pensions boom in recent years because their employers lacked the expertise and manpower to run the kind of scheme offered by big companies. They have had to rely instead on the state pension or more expensive private pensions.

But in a speech on the future funding of retirement, the Social Security Secretary will seek to extend the occupational umbrella to all employ-ees. He will allow a third tier" of pensions in addition to the basic state pension and the compulsory second pensions of SERPS or contracted-out occupational or private

Mr Lilley's inaugural lecture to members of Politeia. the newest of the Conservative think-tanks, will come against the background of renewed debate in Tory circles about the future of the welfare state. Although right-wing ministers are privately applauding his success in cutting real growth in social security spending from 3 per cent a year to 1 per cent, they still want to see more of the burden transferred to private individuals and But Kenneth Clarke, the

Chancellor and foremost exponent of the One Nation tradition, is expected to counter calls for radical change in a speech on the welfare state to the London School of Economics today.
Mr Lilley will make it easier

for bosses of small firms to offer their staff "group person-al pensions" under which a big commercial fund manager would set up a scheme for the employees of dozens of companies. It would be up to the employer to decide whether to boost payouts by also contrib-

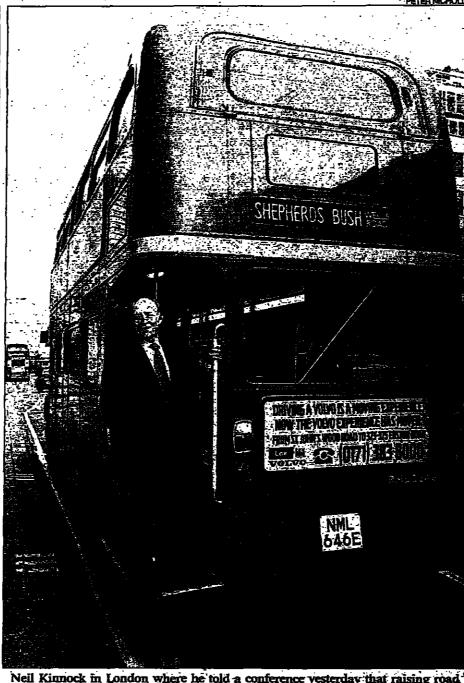
uting to the fund.

The idea is that employers would be able to offer their workers a chance to join a group scheme and so benefit from the lower administrative costs of arrangements covering hundreds of people. Regulations under the Financial Services Act that inhibit bosses from recommending pensions providers could be amended by the Government.

Mr Lilley will highlight what he regards as the success of the Government's pensions policy, pointing out that total funds invested in occupational and private schemes stand at £600 billion — more than the rest of the European Union put together. The national kitty has grown by a startling £100 billion in the past year — more than the £90 billion spent by the taxapayer on the whole of the welfare state over the same period, of which £32 hillion went on state pensions.

He will claim that Britain is far better placed than its neighbours to cope with the burdens of an ageing popula-tion as the numbers of pen-sioners rises by 50 per cent to 16 million by 2030. But he will accuse Labour of planning pensions changes amounting to a backdoor way of raising taxes. He will say that Labour's proposals for extending means-testing and creating a guaranteed minimum pension would penalise people who have saved for their old age and undermine incentives for the present generation of workers to do likewise.

Labour's interest in the Singapore Central Provident Fund - under which employers and employees each contribute 20 per cent of earnings into a government-run welfare fund - will also be attacked as a long-term threat to individual savings. Mr Lilley will point out that the average rate of return from the Singapore fund is only one fifth that of privately managed UK pension funds and suggest that Labour is secretly planning to get its hands on some of the pensions surplus to use for higher state spending.



Neil Kinnock in London where he told a conference yesterday that raising road taxes would persuade more people to abandon their cars and use public transport

Kinnock calls for bigger lorries and higher road tax

BIGGER juggernauts and choice is made about the higher road taxes are the various modes of transport answer to the traffic conges-tion that is costing Britain E30 billion a year, Neil Rinnock told a London con-

ference yesterday.

Increasing the maximum long size would lead to fewer journeys, and raising road tax would encourage more people to use public transport. Mr Kinnock said that he had been converted to the cause of bigger juggernauts since becoming the European Union's Transport Commissioner

"On the figures available to me. I believe the argument is very strong," he said. "In-creased size is better than a congested infrastructure and is preferable to the misery of essant traffic to those who live beside lorry routes." He said that the EU was

threatened with "economic thrombosis" by the growth of road traffic. "Endless traffic jams, suffocating urban air pollution, epidemic delays and rising insurance bills are already everyday facts of life
— and of death."

Building more roads was no answer and people had to be persuaded to make better use of public transport.
There needs to be a fairer. and more accurate pricing of road use to encourage a shift. Even though motorists pay a lot there is a real gap between what users contribute and what they cost society. It may be that the only way to ensure a more judicious

available would be to introduce a fairer pricing regime." Mr Kinnock said that the European Commission was producing figures which would show that for many people a car was an expensive luxury. "People will see that it is cheaper to hire a car when they need one rather than keep one as an extraordinary decoration to their homes, as

a kind of mobile topiary." He said it had taken him 25 minutes longer that morning to travel from Heathrow to the centre of London than to travel from Brussels to Heathrow. He believed that congestion could be eased by greater use of the Thames. When there is access to the equivalent of a ten-lane motorway without any of the environmental pressures, that access should be fully used."

After the conference, organised by the Association of London Government, Mr Kinnock described his decision to allow a £440 million subsidy to the Spanish airline Iberia as "legally sound" and said that British Airways and the Government had little if any justification for challeng-

Some of the hostility is well rehearsed - some of it was just a knee-jerk reaction. he said. Concerns about the subsidy were natural but he there would be no uncompeti-

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inquiry into late payments

PRESSURE increased yesterday for an independent inves-

tigation into late payments by Whitehall departments. The spending watchdog, the National Audit Office, has been asked to examine the reasons for at least £232 million being paid late by departments last year.

According to figures obtained from the Government by Barbara Roche, Labour's spokesman for small businesses, one of the worst offenders was the Department of Trade and Industry, which delayed almost £50 million of payments last year. In a letter the The Times today, she says that small firms are "going to the wall because of late government payments.

Labour MPs were quick to

point out that the head of the department last year was Heseltine, who admitted last week that as a businessman he had often delayed paying creditors.

Demand for | Serious criminals gaining from Tory rule, says Straw

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

CONVICTIONS for crimes cautions had fallen as a proincluding rape, burglary and violence have fallen allowing many criminals to escape justice, according to a Labour Party study published

Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, said the de-cline in the number of convictions meant that the prospects of getting away with trime had risen since the Tories came to power. The number of recorded offences and the proportion of charges dropped

Mr Straw told a press conference at Westminster that more offenders were getting away with crime and that serious criminals had a threetimes better chance of escap-

only one in eleven recorded rapes in 1994 was followed by a conviction compared with one in three in 1980. Only one in 33 house burglaries before cases come to court had resulted in conviction or caurisen, and convictions and tion compared with one in 11

in 1980. For robberies the portion of overall reported figures are one in four down to one in 11.

He said that the total number of convictions and cautions for home burgiary and arson had fallen in spite of huge increases in the number of recorded offences in both ing punishment now than in categories. The balance had 1980. The figures show that swung too far in favour of defendants.

"Somebody has done all right out of the Conservatives — it is serious criminals and their representatives. We have to ensure that more offenders are caught and convicted."

Blair gimmickry gibe

THE Tories accused Tony Blair of political gimmickry yesterday over his announcement of an information super-

highway deal with BT. Mr Blair said at last year's party conference that a Lab-our government would allow BT access to the cable market by 1998 in exchange for connecting schools and hospitals to a nationwide computer

network. He has now agreed to give small companies time to establish themselves before BT can compete against them.

Brian Mawhinney, the Tory party chairman, said that Labour had scrapped the deal. which had been a "cheap political gimmick made by someone who hasn't a scintilla of understanding of how the free market works".

YESTERDAY in the Commons: quasilons to national huntage spirituans and the Lord-Charcellon's Department: A Private Notice Question on rais privatesiation was followed by debates on policing in London and on the Shatilida superirant. In the Lords: Criminal Procedure and investigations Bill, report; and Agricultural Holdings (Fee) Regulations.

TODAY in the Commons: questions to defence ministers and the Prima Minister tolkowed by debates on the lutture of GP tundiculdens; Collective Reductions and Transfer of Underfalkings (Protection of Employment) Amendment; Regulations, proposed; dosure of Francis Withers Rome, in Sutton Coldified, in the Lords: the Broadcasting Bill, committee

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Waterfalls freeze and moustaches wilt in cold snap

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

ICE floes have appeared in the Hudson and moustaches have snapped off in Minnesota. Record low temperatures were recorded yesterday in the eastern half of America as the

freezing weather continued. Television news broadcasts carried warnings of the danger to facial hair after men reportedly lost their moustaches by trying to brush away icicles in -o0F (-51C) temperatures. Liz Cunnane, a New York trichologist, said that moustache-wearers should wrap upper lips against the extreme cold and not attempt combing until the hair was completely defrosted.

Hair has a 12 to 14 per cent moisture content and in such temperatures it may freeze almost instantaneously." Miss Cunnane said.

Keith Pickus, an assistant professor of history at Wichita State University, Kansas, said: "On a five-minute walk across campus, my beard turned into one big stalactite. If you are not careful, it will break off like the stem of a

good champagne flute." Forecasters predicted a gradual improvement in the conditions, but 60 people are waterfall at Haines Falls froze.

now reported to have died as a result of the Arctic chill. One victim, an Alzheimer's sufferer, wandered round in a daze after a car crash in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and died of exposure. An 80-year-old woman in Wisconsin froze to death after locking herself in her garage, and a man in Houston, Texas, died after trying to warm himself over a brazier. A spark from the hot coals set fire to his woollen mittens and

Winter sun-seekers in northern Florida awoke to temperatures below zero and a wind chill factor which took the mercury to -8F (-22C). The state's citius farmers had to take emergency measures to protect crops, spraying fruit to create an insulating outer layer of ice. Bobby McKown, chief executive of Florida Citrus Mutual, predicted bad defoliation of orange trees. The damage may push up

then to the rest of his clothes.

orange juice prices. Many motorists had trouble trying to start their cars. Residents of Windsor Locks. Connecticut, awoke yesterday to temperatures of -I3F (-25C),

creating an array of icicles. Petrol pump attendants complained that their hands were too numb to handle change, and thousands of people in Tennessee were left without electricity after ice unbalanced power pylons. Along the shores of the Great Lakes, pedestrians were urged to "keep blinking" to protect

their eyes.
In Atlanta, Georgia, schools and businesses did not open because of the -oF (-21C) conditions, and firemen set light to a frozen water hydrant to thaw it out before fighting a fire. But for the people of Duluth, Minnesota, yesterday morning's -10F (-23C) was a welcome rise on Friday's -60F (-

This," said John Myers, a local reporter. "feels positively springlike."



Don Lopez, a fireman, rescues Marglyn Paseka, 15, after she and a friend tried to cross a flooded creek in Santa Rosa, California, in a dusthin

Museum takes over block of Manhattan

By QUENTIN LETTS

NEW York's Museum of Modern Art, one of the most acquisitive galleries in the world, plans nearly to double in size. It has signed a \$50 million (£33 million) deal to buy neighbouring buildings in central Manhattan which

include a 19-storey hotel. The ambitious expansion, which will be watched closely by the museum's British and European rivals, is likely to take ten years and will cost "several hundred million dollars". It will allow the musecurrent 10 per cent of works itmanages to exhibit and to bang some of the vast canvases favoured by modern

By buying three buildings the museum has added 250,000 sq ft to its existing buildings have high ceilings and offer different-shaped rooms. The museum's galleries have been criticised for being too rectangular and low-ceilinged. The expansion

means that the museum will occupy the best part of an entire block.

The museum was founded in 1929 by three rich women, including John D. Rockefel-ler's wife, Abby. It has the most comprehensive modern art collection in the world and has an acquisitions budget that is the envy of European museum directors. To pay for the development, the museum intends to run a vigorous appeal. There is little doubt that the funds will be raised.

Glenn Lowry, the director, told The New York Times: "This will allow us to have a different kind of future than anyone would have imagined а уеаг аво."

Modern artists increasingly tend to produce work that is so oddly shaped, so grandiose difficult to hang. A good example is a 240,000 lb. 13 ft-55 ft-long sculpture called Intersection II by Richard Serra, which was given to the museum three years ago.

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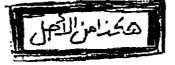


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OVERSEAS NEWS

Saddam inches towards UN oil deal to feed starving Iraqis

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Saddam: regime finally

IN NEW YORK

IRAQ appears to be edging to-wards a deal with the United Nations that would allow it to sell a limited amount of oil on world markets for the first time since the Gulf War, in order to buy food for

its starving people.

An Iraqi delegation led by Abdul
Amir al-Anbari, the former Ambassador to the UN, is due to start talks with officials in New York today on an "oil-for-food" scheme approved by the Security Council last April. Under the scheme, Iraq would be permitted to sell \$1 billion (£640 million) worth of crude every three months for food and other humanitarian supplies.

Thirty per cent of the total revenue would be diverted to the UN Compensation Commission, set up to pay reparations to victims of the Gulf War, while a further \$150 million of every \$1 billion would be spent on the Kurdish population who live beyond Baghdad's control in three northern

Until now, Iraq has rejected the UN terms for an oil sale, particularly the set-aside for the Kurds and the requirement that the "larger share" of the exported oil be shipped through the Kirkuk-Yumurtalik pipeline across Turkey. Baghdad claimed such conditions were an unacceptable infringement

of its sovereignty.

Reports in official Iraqi media yesterday suggest, however, that Baghdad may be softening its resistance to the requirements. The al-Jumhuriya newspaper reported that President Saddam Hussein was ready to ship food to the Kurds and said that agreement between Iraq and the UN would be "a

humiliating defeat for America". Diplomats noted that the black market exchange rate for the Iraqi dinar had fallen from 3,000 to the

of an oil deal.

Iraq's readiness to enter talks. with the UN about the "oil-forfood" scheme, spelt out in Resolution 986 by the Security Council, has prompted speculation that Saddam's regime is finally running out of cash. UN agencies report dire conditions in the country, with four million people, or a fifth of the population, at severe nutritional risk and a new generation growing

up stunted by malnutrition.

The market cost of food for a family of five is estimated at \$26 a month, while the average wage is only between \$3 and \$5 a month.

Some Iraqis are said to be so desperate that, having sold all their furniture to buy food, they are now dismantling their homes to sell the

Western diplomats remain sceptical, however, that Iraq will actualaccept UN terms. Iraq has always feared that, if it accepts the scheme, it will postpone the time when it can obtain a complete lifting of the oil embargo.

Under the resolution that ended the Gulf War in 1991, the oil embargo must be lifted unconditionally once Iraq has satisfied UN weapons inspectors that it has dismantled its capacity to develop nuclear and chemical arms.

Even if Iraq meets UN demands, Britain and the United States would still want to control its of sales to keep a rein on Saddam, rather than allowing his Government to sell oil again freely on world markets.

The Arab League expressed the The Arab League expressed the hope yesterday that the talks, which are expected to last for some weeks, will be successful. However, the UN cautioned that there would be no quick fix. Sylvana Fos. a spokeswoman for the organisation, said: These discussions will be difficult. It is going to take time."

Forbes shrugs off barbed attacks by White House rivals

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

IT IS eight against one, but concerted attacks by the rest of the Republican field have yet to puncture the Steve Forbes

Robert Dale, the front-runner, has rounded on the multimillionaire publisher because he has been shaken by his recent surge in popularity. The seven other candidates have ganged up on Mr Forbes because he prevents them from getting a clear shot at Mr

In speeches and advertisements they denounce Mr Forbes's "flat tax", his political inexperience, his social libertarianism and his attempt to "buy" the presidency, but the most they can claim to have achieved so far is to have capped his rise.

The more he is attacked, the more supporters come to his aid. There's a circle-thewagons mentality." said Frank Luntz, the pollster who advised Ross Perot's independent presidential campaign in 1992, helped devise Newt Gingrich's 1994 Contract with America and has made the "angry white male" his speciality.

Last weekend Mr Luntz brought together 14 of Mr Forbes's New Hampshire supporters for a detailed two-hour discussion and let reporters watch through a one-way mirror. They learns that Mr. Forbes's greatest asset was his

status as a political outsider. His trademark "flat tax" plan merely reinforced that status because it would end the legitimised corruption of Washington where politicians trade tax concessions for financial contributions. "The flat tax draws attention to Forbes, but voters stick with him because he's not a politi-

cian." Mr Luntz said. Mr Forbes's original backers were anti-tax supply-siders, but he increasingly draws support from what a Dole adviser termed the anti-Washington, anti-political, anarchic wing of the Republican Party". This makes it easy for him to deflect attacks from his rivals and from the media by portraying them as the product of a worried establishment. In one advertisement Mr Forbes outlines his goals

Ailing Reagan to miss 85th party

Washington: Seven years after leaving office, Ron-ald Reagan is 85 today, but is too ill with Alzheimer's disease to attend his birthday party in Los Angeles tonight at the restaurant where he proposed to Nancy (Tom Rhodes writes). Guests include Bob Hope and Charlton Heston.

then adds: The politicians will try to stop us." Mr Forbes's willingness to

dip deep into his personal fortune also enables him to swamp his rivals' messages He has already spent \$18 million (EII.9 million), most of it on saturation advertising, and he dominates the airwaves in both Iowa, whose caucuses are a week today. and in New Hampshire, which holds the nation's first primary in a formight. Brent Siegrist, the Republican leader of Iowa's House of Representatives, told Time: "He's on the radio all day at work. He drives you home and he puts you to bed."

In attacking Mr Forbes, Mr Dole also faces the danger of reinforcing his reputation for meanness. His new strategy is to employ surrogates to do the dirty work while appearing to be above the fray. The chief surrogate is Steve Merrill, New Hampshire's popular Governor, who is appears on Dole advertisements claiming the Forbes "flat tax" would cost his state's average household an extra \$2,000 a year.

The Dole camp is banking on Mr Merrill to deliver the Granite State just as one of his predecessors, John Sununu, delivered it for George Bush in 1988. The defeated candidate was Mr Dole and Mr Sununu went on to become President Bush's chief of staff.



Republican presidential candidate Steve Forbes, who has shaken Robert Dole through smaller fax cuts and ment weighed 330th Reuter)

Clinton starts on budget for 1997

By MARTIN FLETCHER

AMERICA'S budget fiasco reached new levels of absurdity yesterday when President Clinton formally submitted a 1997 budget plan even though he and the Republican Congress have yet to agree a plan for the present fiscal year, which began last October.

Mr Clinton was meeting a legal requirement and tacitly legal requirement and tacity admitted that the situation was ridiculous. Budget plans normally run to about 2,000 pages; yesterday's bare-bones offering was just 20 pages.

"The 1996 budget process is being lapped by 1997," said Robert Reischauer, former di-

rector of the congressional budget office. We have the runners for the previous race still on the track and the gun is going off for the new race."

Mr Clinton vetoed the Re-publicans' 1996 budget last November, saying it would devastate key social pro-grammes in order to balance the budget by 2002. Newt Gingrich, the House Speaker, twice shut down the federal Government, but Mr Clinton refused to give in.

The Republicans aban-doned their hardline tactics last month when it became clear that they had lost public support. Budget negotiations have all but collapsed.

Mr Clinton's 1997 budget proposal mostly restated his last offer to the Republicans. which was a balanced budget

Unlucky kicker booed

New York: Michael Volino. the New York police sergeant, failed to kick his way to riches in front of millions of American football fans and was booed off the pitch.

Sergeant Volino, the winner of a lucky draw, was offered \$1 million by a chocolate company if he succeeded with a single place kick at the Pro-Bowl in Hawaii Regardless of the result however, the policeman was promised a consolation prize of \$5,000 (£3,300) and a four-day holiday.

Attacker foiled

Guatemala City: President Arzu escaped unharmed from a bizarre attack in which a man tried to ram his lorry into the Guatemalan leader and his wife. They were riding horses prior to a visit by the Pope. The man was shot dead by bodyguards. (AP)

RUSSIA

ii 1 16

Renewing ties

Amman: King Husain will visit Saudi Arabia on Sunday, marking an end to the rift caused by the Gulf War when Jordan sided with Baghdad after it invaded Kuwait in August 1990. (Reuter)

Loads of money

Rome: An Italian company that empties telephone boxes is paying its workers in coins because local banks refuse to accept the change. One work-

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Opposition waves the flag to beat Keating Sydney: The Australian flag, which re- that a coalition government would intro- change the flag if that was the wish of

publicans want to change if the country cuts its constitutional ties to Britain, took centre stage last night in the election battle between Paul Keating, the Labor Prime Minister, and John Howard, the Liberal leader (Roger Maynard writes).

As the campaign entered its second week with Mr Reating trailing by 10 percentage points in the opinion polls, Mr Howard told his party faithful in Perth

SOUTH Africa's state broad-

casting corporation, once a

pillar of the apartheid regime, has been relaunched to reflect

the cultural and linguistic

demographics of the rainbow

Changes to give all !! offi-

cial languages a representa-tive share of airtime has

prompted angry protests. Par-

ficularly controversial is the downgrading of Afrikaans from more than 30 per cent of

the total broadcasting time to

less than 5 per cent. English will dominate, while Afri-kaans will share a secondary

channel with four African languages, the third channel

going to Zulu and Xhosa.

senters and weather fore-casters have been axed.

Marietta Kruger, a veteran-

news presenter, made an emo-

tional farewell appearance on

Several white Afrikaans and English-speaking pre-

Supporting a National Party plan to make it unlawful to change the Australian flag without public consent, he said: "I do not mind saying that I have a strong emotional, indeed, passionate commitnot mind saying that I have a strong people being consulted." emotional, indeed, passionate commit— According to the latest Sydney Morning ment to the present Australian flag. I am Herald-McNair survey, a clear majority Mr Howard said he was willing to

duce laws to protect the national symbol. most Australians. But he promised: "I will sponsor legislation to change the Australian Flag Act to ensure that it can never be changed without all of the Australian

unashamed about that. I think it is one of of voters expect that in the general election the most beautiful flags in the world."

on March 2 the coalition will beat Labor, on March 2 the coalition will beat Labor, which has been in power for 13 years.

Afrikaans A new Motorola loses prime share of phone with change airwaves from one pound. FROM INIGO GILMORE IN JOHANNESBURG

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last Friday's news with an appeal that Afrikaans be accorded its rightful place. QUARANTEED PEACE OF MIND Your phone is covered by our '14 days' no quibble money back promise. The issue has stirred heated debate between the political parties and has become entangled in the question of impartiality. The corporation's chief executive. Zwelake Sisulu, is the son of President Mandela's former cellmate,

Walter Sisulu. At the relaunch ceremony on Sunday night, Mr Mandela said: "We are shedding another layer in the baggage that has clouded our nation's vision of itself. We are here ... to join you in acknowledging and reassert-



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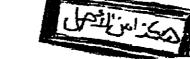


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Pressure grows in hunt for missing **Bosnians**

FROM STACY SULLIVAN IN SARAJEVO

SALKUNE CELIKOVIC, a 43-year-old Muslim woman from eastern Bosnia, is probably a widow, but she does not know for sure. Her husband was put on a bus in April 1992 in Zvornik with her daughter. son-in-law and two brothers. She has never heard from any

of them since. Mrs Celikovic now lives in Tinja, a village outside Tuzla, fedinging to the hope that her husband and daughter are still alive somewhere. Her officespair is shared by hundreds to thousands across Bosnia Herzegovina where an estimated 27000 records are mated 27,000 people are missing. As the war ends, international mediators have stepped up pressure on Serb authorities to account for the missing and to help the United Nations war crimes tribunal in its pursuit of those responsible for their disappearance. Hundreds of angry women from Srebrenica have been

staging demonstrations, induding throwing bricks through the window of a Red Pross office, in Tuzla and Sarajevo demanding that action be taken to account for an ill () stimated 7,000 men who disappeared after Bosnian Serbs : overran the enclave in July. On Sunday, Warren Chris-

opher, the American Secreary of State, persuaded President Milosevic to permit international war crimes inestigators to open an office in he Yugoslav capital. Under hreats of withholding full liplomatic recognition of Yu-soslavia, Mr Milosevic agreed in the office to be opened out said those suspected of var crimes would be tried in Serbia because the country nas no extradition provisions. ☐ Briton hurt: A British sollier was slightly wounded by a sniper and an American armoured vehicle hit a mine in eparate incidents in Bosnia, a lay. The soldier was driving n a convoy between Sarajevo and Kiseljak when a bullet his vindscreen, cutting his face.

he armoured vehicle was

Court of new 'Tsar' exposed

Yeltsin aide lifts the curtain on Kremlin of spies and bullies

IN MOSCOW

ONE of President Yeltsin's closest aides is poised to drop a pre-election bombshell on the embattled Russian leader with the publication of a new book revealing the power struggles and intrigues inside the Kremlin. Vyacheslav Kostikov, the

former presidential spokes-man and now Russia's Ambassador to the Vatican, offers the first inside story of the transformation of President Yeltsin from champion of democracy to the ailing and unpopular leader of today. Although the book about his

work in the Kremlin between 1992 and 1994 is not yet complete, there is such public interest that some chapters have been serialised in the weekly Argumenty i Fakty newspaper. Mr Kostikov, known for his sharp mind and even sharper tongue, paints an extraordinary picture of Kremlin life, which resembles more the court of an ageing tsar than the office of Russia's first democratically elected head of state.

In one section he relates the atmosphere of paranoia that reigns in the Kremlin, where cronies run day-to-day affairs, eventually driving out far. more qualified aides. For instance, he recalls that all offices and telephones in the

Anatoli Chubais, Russia's former economic chief, said if President Yeltsin opted for huge spending, it would lead to financial disaster. He also said at the Davos economic forum there would be bloodshed if the Communists came to power. (Reuter)

Kremlin were bugged by the presidential security team, so that when Kremlin staffers got together for a drink after work they would often address each other by ficticious names to confuse the spies. Much of Mr Kostikov's criti-

cism is directed at General Aleksandr Korzhakov, the presidential bodyguard, and Viktor Hyushin, his aide, who effectively run the Kremlin and decide who Mr Yeltsin meets and what he reads. In an interview with Itogi, a

weekly current affairs programme. Mr Kostikov said a common expression in the Kremlin was "it is no business of the Tsar's", meaning that the aides, rather than the President, would make the

General Korzhakov, a shadowy former KGB officer. comes across as the classic Russian servant who loyally devotes himself to his master but gradually takes over the

he found out that Mr Kostikov was planning to write about his experiences in the Kremlin when he took up his new foreign post. The burly bodyguard came to Mr Kostikov's farewell party and told him not to write anything critical. Mr Kostikov has gone to

great pains to insist that he does not want to hurt his former boss and that he has deliberately withheld potentaily damaging information, including details of a drunken boat trip when Mr Yeltsin reportedly threw his spokesman into the Volga river. Nevertheless, the Russian

his re-election battle in June, is unlikely to be pleased with his description as a "lone and tragic figure" void of any beliefs, who is desperately clinging to power at any cost.
"Yeltsin does not have a personal democratic ideology," Mr Kostikov concludes. "His ideology, his friend, his concubine, his mistress, his

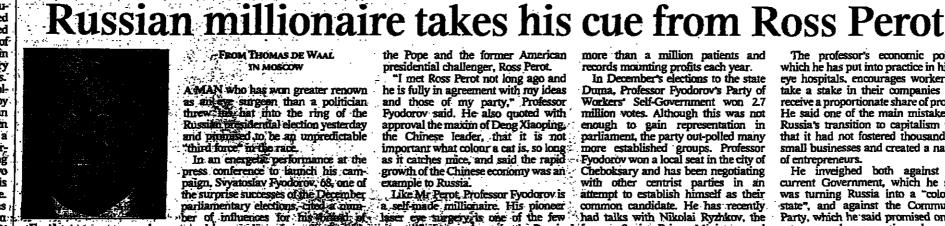
passion, is power."

leader, who is preparing for

So far the Kremlin has not officially responded to Mr Kostikov's remarks. As for the author, he will not easily be silenced. A former journalist and committed democrat, he is no stranger to controversy and was ousted from his job for privately criticising President Yeltsin for his drunken



A Russian pilot takes a ride on his Sukhoi SU31 fighter in Singapore yesterday



FROM THOMAS DE WAAL IN MOSCOW

as an eye surgeen than a politician threw has hat into the ring of the Russian presidential election yesterday and promised to be an unpredictable

third force in the race.

In an energetic performance at the press conference to launch his campaign, Svyatoslav Fyodorov, 68, one of vindscreen, cutting his face.

The armoured vehicle was a self-made millionaire. His pioneer common candidate. He has recently amaged by the made in Processor Fyodorovis attempt to establish himself as their parliamentary elections, cited a num.

Tyodorovis arreexample popular capitalism, from the Scottish unqualified success to ries in Russia former Soviet Prime Minister, and vere no casualties (Rearre).

Tyodorovis arreexample popular capitalism, from the Scottish unqualified success. Utopian philosopher Robert Owen to over the past ten years. He has treated Aleksandr Lebed, the retired general.

the Pope and the former American presidential challenger, Ross Perot. "I met Ross Perot not long ago and AMAN who has won greater renown he is fully in agreement with my ideas and those of my party," Professor Fyodorov said. He also quoted with approval the maxim of Deng Xiaoping, the Chinese leader, that it is not

important what colour a cat is, so long

growth of the Chinese economy was an . example to Russia.

more than a million patients and records mounting profits each year.

In December's elections to the state Duma, Professor Fyodorov's Party of Workers Self-Government won 2.7 million votes. Although this was not enough to gain representation in parliament, the party out-polled many more established groups. Professor Fyodorov won a local seat in the city of as it catches mice, and said the rapid Cheboksary and has been negotiating with other centrist parties in an

which he has put into practice in his 12 eye hospitals, encourages workers to take a stake in their companies and receive a proportionate share of profits. He said one of the main mistakes of Russia's transition to capitalism was that it had not fostered thousands of small businesses and created a nation of entrepreneurs.

He inveighed both against the current Government, which he said was turning Russia into a "colonial state", and against the Communist Party, which he said promised only a return to a bureaucratic enslavement by the party nomenklatura.

Arsonist behind mystery of French fires

FROM REN MACINTURE IN PARIS

AN arsonist has confessed to setting more than half the fires in a small village in the Jura mountain range which have baffled scientists, terrified inhabitants and obsessed the French reading public since last November.

Thirteen fires have broken out in the village of Moiransen-Montagne in the last three months, killing two people and creating a mystery which grew with every passing day and every new fire.

A man was arrested on Sunday night shortly after setting another blaze and later confessed to lighting seven of the fires, the public prosecutor in the case said yesterday.

The identity of the suspect has not been revealed, but he is believed to be an acquaintance of the Raffin family, in whose houses most of the fires erupted. He has not, however. confessed to starting the fire which killed Annie Raffin and Gérard David, a volun-

teer fireman, on January 20. In the absence of any obvious explanation for the fires, theories and rumours spread rapidly. The local magistrate brought in electricity experts to see if an underground cable was the cause, and some seismologists argued that inflammable gases might be leaking out of underground caves benath the mountains.

Investigators repeatedly said they could find no scientific or rational explanation for the fires, but yesterday they insisted that arson had never been ruled out. "That was part of the strategy in that it allowed the police to pursue their criminal investigation," Marie Christine Tarare, the public prosecutor, claimed.

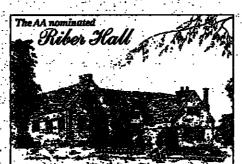
But by refusing to say arson vas a possibility and stressing that there was no "electrical nuclear or magnetic anomaly" to explain the fires, the authorities stirred up panic speculation, ranging from the scientific to the supernatural.

Some inhabitants maintained the town was under attack by laser beams from satellites. Six fires still remain officially unaccounted for.



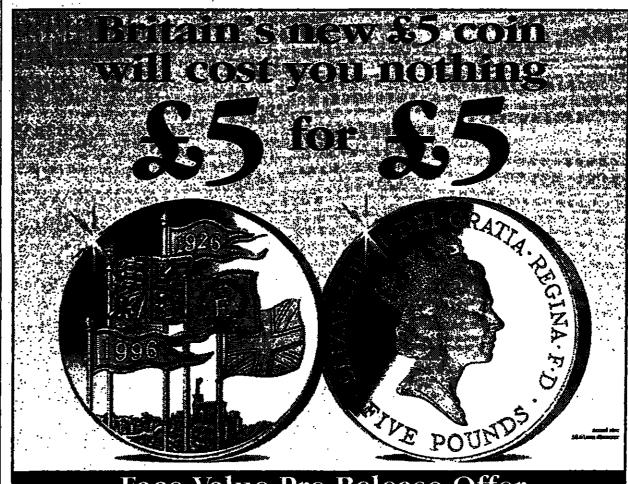
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Defence unity approved

Germans support integration except on monetary front

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

A LARGE majority of Germans are in favour of European projects, including common foreign and defence policies, in spite of growing scepticism about economic and monetary union. Opinions polls in the con-

servative Frankfurter Allgeteine Zeitung yesterday show that the Germans are broadly behind their Government when it comes to intensifying European integration in nonmonetary matters.

The newspaper said that 71 per cent of Germans support a common foreign policy. 35 per cent want a common defence policy and 74 per cent favour a strategy against drugs. This, said the paper's chief European commentator, demonstrated that Germany was still

wedded to the European idea. "Because of their disap-pointment with the achieve-

ment of the European Union, citizens are looking at Euroinstitutions and the grand projects of the future with increasing, perhaps healthy, scepticism, conceded Klaus Dieter Frankenberger. "Even so, Germans expect much from Europe. These security and welfare."

The gap between leaders and led on EMU has become a central preoccupation. On Thursday, Germany is likely ment has passed the four million mark — a psychologi-cally critical level that will frame the political agenda. The Government will try to recast monetary union as a generator of jobs.

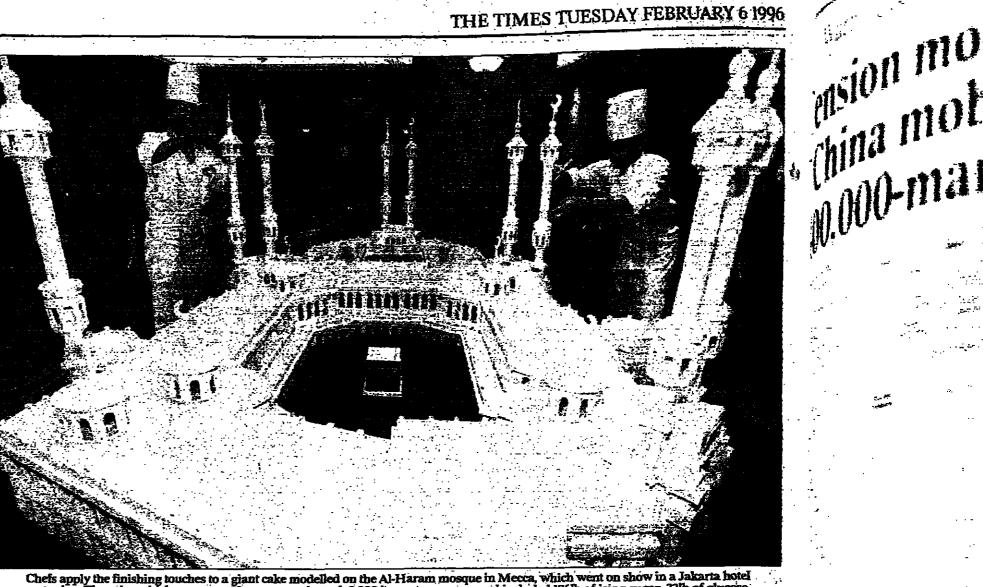
Bonn has promised to help to create two million jobs by 2000, providing unions restrain their wage claims. It

has not made clear how monetary union will fit into this socalled "alliance for work". The promised measures were co-ordinated to some degree with France.

Economic specialists from

the French parliament will visit their counterparts in out how EMU, with its tough yardsticks on debt, budget deficits, inflation and exchange rates, could be presented as an employment-creating policy. Both Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, and Wolfgang Schauble, the Christian Democrat parliamentary leader, have argued that the collapse of monetary union would unravel the single market, and that this would increase

Anatole Kaletsky, page 18 Letters, page 19



Chefs apply the finishing touches to a giant cake modelled on the Al-Haram mosque in Mecca, which went on show in a Jakarta hotel yesterday. The cake, which measures 28 square yards, took 2,000 hours to prepare, and included 176lb of icing sugar, 22lb of glucose, 66lb of palm sugar and about nine pints of egg white. The confection will be on display throughout the holy month of Ramadan



FROM QUENTIN LETTS

A SMOOTH-TALKING African who claims to be King of Guin and last week received a red-carpet welcome to Texas was yesterday challenged to prove his bona fides.

François Ayi, who prefers to be addressed as "His Royal Highness King Ge Fiovi François A. Ayi of the King-dom of Guin", has been delighting polite circles in Austin. Texas, with his regal manner and elaborately charword was cherished, and among the matrons of Austin there developed a rapacious market for his company.

One person not convinced, however, was the state's aftor-ney general. Dan Morales, who issued Mr Ayi with a subpoena to produce docuble status of his "foundation", The deadline passed yester

onarch of Guin, part of the West African republic of Togo, and says his family's rule extends back to 1663. He sought funds to help the poor among his "people". Texan understanding of Togo's political system appears to have been sufficiently sketchy to allow him to convince generous hosts that he was an important man. A \$50 (£33) a plate fund-raising dinner on Friday night was supported by local politicians, and Mr Ayi was met at Austin airport by dignitaries. A taxi driver gave his services free to the king and Austin's women

folk practised their curtseys. It now seems they were gulled. Rich Appleton, Togo desk officer at the US State Department, said: "The guy is very, very good at spinning stories. I can tell you this much. There's no kingdom and there's no king."

Togo's Embassy to the Uni-

ted States denied that he was a head of state and speculated that Mr Ayi merely springs from a mildly prominent family in the Togolese village of Glidji. There is no record of Mr Ayi sending money back to Togo's poor, and he last visited the country seven years ago. He has lived in America for ten years. Robert Moffitt, a public relations specialist who has the title "chief protocol officer to King François A. Ayi" denied that Mr Ayi is a fake. "I doubt we would be going through this if he was a

monarch from Britain," he

said. "So let's not try him

when he is down here on a

Beatings admitted by police giosine eap

sechnologi

admitted yesterday that they had manhandled, beaten of verbally abused individual foreigners but denied there was any widespread violation of regulations (Roger Boyes writes). The police union called for more anti-stress and communications training to help officers to cope with their problems. - .

The report was released at the same time as scathing accounts of German police behaviour were published by Amnesty International, the human rights group. Amnesty that of a Turkish man de tained in Frankfurt, who was allegedly handcuffed, then ched and kicked in his cell

Troops clash

and Cameroon clashed over group of islands, known as t Bakassi peninsula, in the o rich Gulf of Guinea, w unconfirmed reports that eral were killed (Reuter)

Mass sacking

Sanaa: Hundreds of Yemen government officials have been sacked for alleged corruption and negligence, after an unannounced inspection by President Saleh of ten ministries. (AFP)

Bhutto's strike

Karachi: A general strike called by Benazir Bhutto, the Prime Minister, in solidarity with the separatist uprising in Indian Kashmir brought business and economic life in Pakistan to a halt. 🗓

Piracy pledge

Peking: Under American pressure, China has promised to fine or close publishers that supply licences to copyright pirates, hoping to close a loophole used to produce illicit compact discs. (Reuter)

Africa birth risk

Geneva: Women in sub-Sah ran Africa face a hundred times greater risk of dying during pregnancy and child-birth than those in Western Europe, according to a United Nations study. (Reuter)

Snooker haul

Phnom Penh: Prompted by truancy, gambling and fighting among high-school stu-dents, police raided snooker parlours near schools, confiscating hundreds of snooker balls and cues. (AFP)

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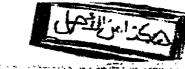
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Warning before Taiwan poll

Tension mounts as China mobilises 400,000-man force

IN PERING

A HUGE Chinese troop mobilisation along its eastern coast facing Taiwan, ahead of the first presidential elections there, led to mounting tension in East Asia yesterday. Reports said the build-up of

400,000 men signalled China's determination to prevent Taiwan from declaring independence Peking has accused President Lee Teng-hui of Taiwan, who is almost certain to be re-elected in next month's polis, of seeking independent status for the republic.

Sing Tao Daily, a Hong Kong newspaper, reported that China would begin a massive, month-long military involve 400,000 infantry, air force and navy personnel, which the paper said showed



China's determination to keep Taiwan in check.

The report led to an initial fall in share prices in Taipei, the Taiwanese capital. President Lee declared that Peking was "scared to death" of the scheduled elections. Peking has not commented

so far on the Sing Tao report. Earlier reports, which had said massive military exer-

Peking closing gap in arms technology

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE planned show of force by the Chinese in a military exercise in the strait separating China from Taiwan is seen in the West as a deliberate demonstration of power aimed at unsettling its capital-

However, although the reported month-long amphibious exercise involving 40 naval vessels and more than 100 aircraft will serve as a reminder of China's military power, Taiwan's continuing strength as the potential David to Peking's Goliath has been its acquisition of superior defence technology. China has always been a generation behind Taiwan in terms of its main weapons, although the Chinese are slowly narrowing

to the same

On paper, however, there is no contest. According to the International Institute for Strategic Studies in its latest wanese Air Force has 430 Military Balance, China has combai aircraft.

an army of 2.2 million, up to 8,000 main battle tanks, 2,000 light tanks, 4,500 armoured infantry fighting vehicles and armoured personnel carriers, 14,500 towed artillery pieces and 3,800 multiple rocket

The Chinese Navy has 52 submarines, 18 destroyers, 32 frigates and about 870 patrol and coastal vessels. Its naval air force has 855 shore-based combat aircraft and 68 armed helicopters. It also has a marine force of 5,000 and 25,000 coastal defence tradps. The Chinese Air Force has about 4,970 combat aircraft, some of them nuclear-capable. By comparison, Taiwan has

an army of 240,000, with 570 main battle tanks and 905. light tanks. Its navy consists of four submarines, 22 destroyers, 16 frigates and 98 patrol and coastal vessels. The Taicises would be held near Taiwan either before or after the March 23 polls, were dismissed as "speculative".

Although there has been no independent confirmation of the build-up. Sing Tao said the Nanking military district had ordered all its forces to mobilise and that leave for troops had been cancelled. Last week the United States

State Department said it saw no imminent threat to Taiwan, but it was monitoring the Yesterday The Washington

Post reported that US policymakers had decided to issue a warning to China that it should cool tensions with Taiwan before any miscalculation led to a serious accident. Li Peng, the Chinese Prime Minister, in a recent speech, did not rule out the use of force

but also did not significantly make fresh threats against Taiwan. But a report by Xinhua, the Chinese news agency, at the end of last month said the success of a series of military exercises last year by the People's Liberation Army had shown that its military quality have been significantly improved".

Diplomats in Peking said the reports of military action. whether true or false, suited China's style of keeping Taiwan off balance. But they said further Chinese exercises in the Taiwan Strait, of the kind that increased tensions during its missile fests last year, were fraught with risks. The diplomats believe that

inese "sabre-rattling" is also to do with uncertainties in domestic politics. Senior leader Deng Xiaoping, 91, is ailing and all sides involved in the succession issue want to show their nationalist credennals. ☐ Counterfeit ring: Two Tai-wanese fishermen and three Chinese citizens were executed China for involvement in the biggest case of smuggling fake currency into China. Chinese television said the counterfeit yuan were worth about 626 million. (Reuter)

Leading article, page 19



Wu Bangguo, left, China's Deputy Prime Minister, tours the Yunnan region hit by a massive earthquake at the weekend. The death toll may rise to 300 and casualties include a seriously injured foreign tourist

Tremors persist in quake city

THERE were two large aftershocks yesterday as hundreds of thousands of survivors of China's biggest earthquake in eight years struggled to keep warm in freezing temperatures.

One aftershock measuring 6.0 on the Richter scale shook the tourist town of Lijiang and surrounding villages in the remote Yunnan province in the southwest 30 hours after an earthquake measuring 7.0 killed 240 people and injured 14,000. There were fears that the final death toll could be пеатет 300.

Among the injured was a foreign tourist, who was seriously hurt, and four other foreigners, who were slightly injured. There has been a second aftershock of 4.8 and about 180 smaller ones. Lijiang is home to the Naxi ethnic minority and is 1,300 miles from Peking.

More than 186,000 homes have collapsed leaving hundreds of thousands of people homeless, officials say. Those whose homes are intact are also staying on the streets,

was born in Nepal

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

INDIA'S few remaining Buddhists, hurt and perplexed by the demise of their faith in the country of its birth, will be further wounded by news from Nepal that the Buddha was not an Indian.

An international team of scientists has reported finding relics under the Mayadevi temple in Lumbini, 200 miles southwest of Kathmandu, proving that Lord Buddha was born there. Most Indian history books proclaim that Guatam Siddhar was born in northern India. although British encyclopaedias favour

Archaeologists from Nepal, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Japan made the find nine months ago, but the Nepali Government delayed an annonncement while it consulted other experts.

It is a matter of pride for all of us that the sacred

birthplace of Lord Buddha THE Hong Kong Govern-ment has published a guide has been discovered," .Sher Bahadur Deuba, the Prime Minister, said. This rewrite of Indian hist-

ory is embarrassing, given that some books specifically state that the Buddha was born in Gorakhpur district in modern-day Uttar Pradesh. The archaeologists found a

commemorative stone on bricks dating from the era of Emperor Ashoka, a convert to Buddhism who ruled much of the Indian subcontinent and visited Lumbini in 249 BC. This tallies with ancient Buddhist literature that says he placed a stone on top of bricks Siddbartha's birth, believed to have been in 623 BC.

Ashoka also built a nearby pillar, which still stands. There is now little doubt that this was meant as a marker for the Buddha's birthplace.

Relics prove Buddha | Hong Kong officials get lesson in communism

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

for civil servants on the Chinese Communist Party.

In 37 pages the booklet aims to give our civil servants some idea of the basics of China in a self-learning form". Academics were commissioned to draft the survey, and were to told to provide the facts only, the civil service

spokesman added. The Communist Party of China begins in the party's second year, 1921, and apart from a few comments the history ends in 1982. What civil servants are getting is a version approved by Deng Xiaoping, the senior leader. The Deng version of party

history emerged in its clearest form in 1981, with the Resolution on Certain Ouestions in Party History. In this version it is admitted that the party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung made mistakes, some serious, in the period up to Mao's death in 1976, that Mr Deng had attempted unsuccessfully to prevent them while Mao was still alive, and thereafter set China on the right path.

Deng: colony printed his

The study's language re-sembles party style. The par-"repudiating feudalism, advocating democracy and science, and promulgating Marxism ..." Feudalism is party jargon for the bad past.

Omissions mar the presentation. The most startling is omitting any mention of the Hong Kong branch of the

party.
After 1949, no mention is made of the killing of at least one million landlords or of the persecution of hundreds of thousands of intellectuals. The break with the Soviet Union is unrecorded. Neither the catastrophe of the Cultural Revolution nor the Gang of Four is mentioned. The study ends in 1982, "beginning the era of Deng Xiaoping". The crackdown in Tiananmen Square is also left out.

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Day two: Therapies around the world — and where the stars go

هكراف الرحل

Little Amber's Chinese cure





TODAY

 The rise of Chinese herbal therapies

- Where celebrities
- take their treatment The risks of getting the diagnosis wrong

CHINESE MEDICINE

was two weeks plex operation to remove her bile duct, their daughter had only months to live. Even if it was successful, she would spend the rest of her life on medication.

Desperate to avoid such a drastic measure, Donald and Karen Stanley-Bristowe decided to explore alternative remedies and were put in touch with the Chinese health centre run by Dr Duo Gao. "He took her pulses and touched her stomach before making up a herbal tea which I gave to her twice a day



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weeks," Mr Stanley-Bristowe A week into the treatment, Amber's doctors requested that she have another liver biopsy. This time, they said her liver had improved and their original diagnosis was

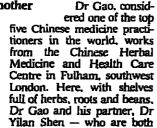
no longer valid. *Amber was due to have the bile duct operation in two days - if that had failed she might have had a liver transplant -. but after the biopsy the doctors said her liver had improved naturally and there was no need for the operation," Mrs Stanley-Bristowe said.

Brian Wilce is another of Dr Gao's satisfied patients. Four years ago, aged 56, he developed diabetes and had resigned himself to a strict sugar-free diet and regular insulin injections.

After questioning him on diet and lifestyle. Dr Gao prescribed a combination of herbs and advised him to

drink less alcohol. He had to return three weeks later and the "prescription" was modified. "About four months later Or Gao told me I didn't need come and see him any more." Using an ExacTech blood glucose sensor, Mr Wilce found that his blood sugar level had fallen to

near normal.



Chinese medicine - treat disorders ranging from diabetes, allergies and infertility to chest pains and rheumatism. Chinese medicine is primarily based on two books transcribed 2,000 years ago, the

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While Western doctors concentrate on specific, isolated areas of disease, Chinese herbal medicine emphasises the interaction of body, mind and spirit

Zhing Ji Jian, Dr Shen explains. While Western medicine tends to concentrate on specific, isolated areas of disease, Chinese herbal medicine emphasises the interaction of body, mind and spirit, togethwith man's relationship

with the environment. "We place a great deal of emphasis on the Qi [pronounced Chil, which is the life force, or vital energy of the person. Chinese doctors believe that this Qi can be improved and enhanced."

Where Western doctors look for a cause or causal agent such as an individual virus or hacterium. Chinese medicine will take into account the mental state of the patient, his or her environment, lifestyle and any events which may have resulted in imbalance.

Fulham surgery takes around half an hour Patients explain their problem and then their pulses are examined, "In the left wrist there are three points which correspond to the heart, liver and kidney," Dr Shen says. "In the right the three points relate to lung. stomach/spleen and kidney. There are 28 variations of pulse pace which enable us to identify things like high blood pressure." The doctors also

evaluate tongue and facial colour. "We then prescribe a combi-nation of herbs, selecting around four from a total of 400 we could use. They are to be soaked in water, boiled and

drunk," Dr Shen says. There is scepticism over Chinese treatments - some doctors believe recovery is coincidental, or the result of an improved psychological attitude. There have also been well documented cases of poisoning apparently deriving from herbal potions.

These instances, Dr Shen says, are few and far between and the result of unscrupulous practitioners who have only superficial knowledge of Chinese medicine. Chinese doctors in Britain are hoping to establish a governing body to regulate their practice.

KATHRYN KNIGHT

Where the smart set go

FASHIONABLE CLINICS

WITH its polished wooden interior and expensive tiles. The Life Centre, in west London, looks like an upmarket hairdresser. But the centre has become a haven for stressed professionals and celebrities such as Cher and Brian Eno..

At reception, you can buy rainbow crystals. Mayan chiming balls and rainsticks. The building has even been Feng-Shui-ed, to ensure that the building's maximum Qi or universal energy is

The Life Centre is to the gym what a kitten is to a rottweiler. "What we are is a natural illestyle which doesn't involve sweating buckets," says Diana Heyer, a reflexologist and centre administrator.

The centre specialises in dynamic yoga, a high-energy workout which involves



nearly every muscle and the utmost concentration on breathing. Visitors can also choose from a smorgasbord of alternative therapies,

acupuncture and osteopathy, to numerology. Prices vary from £7 for an hour's yoga class to £65 for an hour's

psychotherapy. While the Life Centre radiates New-Ageism, the Hale Clinic, the prototype of alternative health centres, bristles with efficiency. The Princess of Wales, the Duchess of York and Rufty Waxe and another the chinics, 1,000 his this a week.

"Many people see us as the last-chance saloon when con-Marten, the sales manager. The dimly lit clinic's atmosphere is low-key and reassuring. Men and women in white coats hurry about. The which range from more rec-ognised treatments such as rancid aroma of health food,

stocked shop.

New patients visit a "gate-

keeper", one of 20 doctors. trained not only in conventional medicine but in a range of disciplines. From there they will be referred to one of the 100 therapists, specialising in everything from hypnosis to colonic irrigation, which was made famous by the Princess of

Treatments cost, on average, £50 an hour. "We do have a reputation of being very upmarket, but this is more than a soa," savs Ms Marten. This is about DEALTH, THOU LIVESTYNES.

JULIA LLEWELLYN

• Life Centre, 15 Edge Street, London W8 (0171-221 4602). Hale Clinic, 7 Park Crescent, London WI (0171-631 0156)

respect among patients and the medical establishment. with many French GPs practising both homocopathy and acupuncture. More than one in three people use homoeonathic remedies; however, such treatments are not reimbursed by social security.

• GERMANY: Some 50 per cent of the population say medicine and orthodox doctors have used elements of homoeogathy and natural medicine since the 1920s. Spa part of German culture for 200 years. Since 1950 they through the national health system, as are many of the costs of prescribed alternative

● ITALY: The medical establishment remains highly sceptical of alternative medicine. However, a population disap-pointed with the shortcomings of its ramshackle national health system is turning increasingly to homeopaherhal medicine and shiatzu massage. But people have to pay, since most private insurce policies do not cover alternative remedies.

• SPAIN: Alternative medicine is widely practised in Spain and every major city everything from herbs to par the medical profession is one of cynical tolerance. South American doctors practising their own traditional medicine are popular here. Alternative treatments are not available on the health

• ISRAEL: Given the rapidly increasing popularity of alternative medicine, it is no surprise that a shop devoted to Chinese herbal recipes has opened in Jerusaleur, arothese can be obtained on the practitioners tend to oppose alternative treatments, apart from osteopathy and chiro-practic, claiming their popularity is a symptom of increased stress.

 UNITED STATES: Alternative medicine is booming with oriental medicine becoming popular. Treatments medicine. America's 10,000 alternative practitioners are more regulated than in Brie ain. The first licences were issued to practitioners in 1974, and some have been successfully prosecuted for practising

Approach alternative remedies with caution

medicine during my early months in a general practice in Norfolk, I was called to an isolated cottage to see a cowman. He was in bed, pale, thin and paralysed from the waist down. Apparently he had complained for several months of severe low backache; he had continued working although he was in agouy and had lost weight. Desperate to rid himself of the torment he visited a local bone manipulator who twisted his spine this way and that way. There was a loud click and the cowman was paralysed. It later transpired he had secondary malignant growths in his spine and as cancerous bones are eakened it had fractured easily.

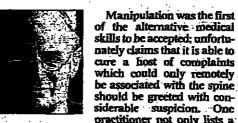
The cowman's case provided a valuable lesson: not that manipulation was necessarily unhelpful, for it can be miraculous, but that any spine which is going to be manipulated should first be carefully X-rayed and, in doubtful cases, examined with an MRI

in the 1950s and 1960s the BMA was very conservative; it was presided over by men of stature who, dressed in dark

THE DANGERS OF MISDIAGNOSIS Manipulation was the first of the alternative medical skills to be accepted; unfortu-

suits and wearing watch chains, behaved like senior civil servants and shared the values of Mary Whitehouse. The idea that any qualified doctor would consider cooperating with an osteopath (unless medically qualified), a chiropractor or any other advocate of alternative medicine was anathema, and if DRTHOMAS detected in his or her iniquity the doctor would be struck off. I never shared the BMA

or GMC views and disobeyed their diktats, for I had seen too many people helped by medically unqualified people practising one or other of the alternative medical arts. What was apparent from the case of the cowman and many other instances was that although masseurs and manipulators have great physical skills their powers of diagnosis are often exaggerated, and their understanding of basic medical science is not matched by



STUTTAFORD

siderable suspicion. One practitioner not only lists a wide range of orthopaedic problems that can be alleviated but also asthma, fa-tigue, high blood pressure, heartburn, hiatus hernia, colitis, irritable bowel syndrome, diverticulitis, skin diseases and men-

trual problems. The study of herbs is often thought of as an alternative medicine but in the past the great majority of medicines were herbal; traditional herbal medicines are still used and recent research has found new powerful drugs in plants, capable in some instances even of controlling cancer. However, dead cows that have eaten yew, or children

who have swallowed laburnum illustrate that all that is natural is not benign. Gabrielle Hatfield, in her book Country Remedies, describes a wide variety of plant nostrums which, within living memory, were still being used in country districts. She draws a distinction between traditional domestic medicines which used local plants and the advent of 19th-century herbal medicines which relied heavily on imported herbs. Research on Chinese herbal medicines by dermatologists at the Royal Free Hospital in London has not only confirmed their ability to succeed when orthodox medicines have failed, but has also demonstrated

a power to cause serious side effects. The help that patients can derive from manipulation, herbal medicine, relaxation therapy and other comple-mentary aids is clear. But that doesn't mean their practitioners have the training to make a diagnosis which, if delayed, could be life-threatening. Having spinal manipulation for hear-burn and indigestion could deprive the patient of an early diagnosis of cancer of the oesophagus. Consult your doctor first.

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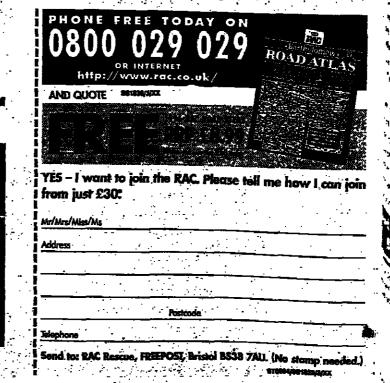
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Ire. The pistol-packing mommas are back

Carrying a handgun has become de rigueur for America's rich and famous women. Quentin Letts on the return of the pearl-encrusted pistol

sometimes carries a miniature revolver in her handbag, it confirmed a trend that has gained ground in recent years.

American women, quietly, calmiv are choosing to mark.

Helmeley and costs money. The net result is that packing a good in social status. Just as Leona Helmeley and that only little. sometimes carries a miniature calmly, are choosing to "pack Helmsley said that only little heat", as the expression goes. The days of the pearl-encrust-ed pistol are back.

Gun dealers report a surge in the number of sales to women, and male instructors at shooting ranges no longer react with surprise when a "dame" arrives for a session of target practice. From female judges to single mothers, there appears to be a steady rise in duced four years ago at the handgun owner-,

ship. The women have their role models — Cybill Shepherd, Dolly Parton and Joan Rivers - but for those who buy a gun as a fashion accessory there are as many who carry. a "piece" for

who let slip her

ican Vogue, is bright, beautiful enough to fit inside a belt-and rich in her own right, buckle, though specialists say Edgar Bronfman Jr., the whis-it is too small to be accurate: key heir, courted her with a bombardment of roses and compact enough for the temate love songs. He would fly 2,000 hand, are flourishing.

Mr Ingrassia's John Jowno and promised her the world. Shop, near Chinatown, has But Clarissa Alcock, as she window mannequins dressed then was, was no pushover. In bullet-proof vests and a She demonstrated her inde lange gun sign over its front mendence at a restaurant one door. Inside, the highing is harsh, the counters groun with night when she produced from harsh, the counters grown with her handbag a highly poinshed in fiscarms hardware, and there gun and casually entrusted it is a since of gun oil. To this to the care of the young man decidedly male shop, women

38 and a 357, as favoured by mats wives and Upper East "Dirty Harry". Mary Lou Side heiresses, female lawyers Whitney, the philauthropist and unofficial queen of Kentucky and Saratoga society. feels comfortable with a pistol at her side. Billionaire John Kluge's former wife, Pat, is another ace shot, and Diane Feinstein, the Democrat Senator for California, has recently

acquired a handgun permit.

In New York City, which has the strictest gun control

hen Clarissa or to people in public life on Bronfman disthe ground that they can closed the other demonstrate a greater need for self-protection. The process of people pay taxes, so handeun

ownership is for plutocrats.

At New York's Downtown Rifle and Pistol Club, where members can practise on a 75f range and load up on amount mition and gun chat, regulars include actresses, media babes

and a female heart surgeon. Ladysmith, a \$562 gun introfirst signs of the female gun female gun growth, have done 'Packing a

well. Frank ingras-sia. New York's top gun dealer and head of the local pistol has become branch of the National Rifle Associa sign . ation, sells the Ladysmiths almost of social as fast as he can unpack them. Derringer makes a weapon that is small

status'

behind the coat check country. I aprile in hurgeoising num-loan Rivers has two guns, a bers. There have been diploand career girls. On the evening I visited the shop, a cool blonde squinted one eye in expert appraisal down a pistol:

Mr Ingrassia has the air of a prano tuner and his delight is paipable when he pulls down two pearl-inset, gold-plated guns, one a Colt Automatic, the other a pretty Browning 25 Automatic Though deadly, laws in America, permits are they are things of beauty. more readily given to the rich. "Gold-plated guns say that



you're powerful in two ways," he says, "You've got money, and you've got that gun in your hand."

Quite apart from the selfprotection aspects, women who carry guns have become one of Hollywood's erotic fixations. The opening credits of James Bond films feature lithe female forms alongside gun barrels and pistol grips, while movies such as Thelma and Louise, Blue Steel and Natural Born Killers have promoted an image of women in command of deadly weapons. We have come a long way since Doris. Day's chirpy. You can't get a Man with a Gun in

Calamity Jane. Photographs of women in gun magazines are increasingy common, and gun adverisements have appeared alongside the nappy ads in women's glossies. Larry Pratt, the rape is carried out, but when the woman has access to sees a gun.™

women with handguns director of the lobby group Gun Owners of America, says the country are reporting an increase in female customers. The gun legislation debate in America is tamiliar ground, and Mr Pratt comes out with all statistics blazing. There

are 30,000 attempts at rape every year in America," he says. "In 32 per cent of cases

Cybill Shepherd (top) and

Joan Rivers (above) have become role models for

a gun that figure drops to 3 per cent," Car bumper stickers note that "Nobody Ever Raped A .38" and Mr Pratt adds: "A guy's ardour cools when he Mr Pratt tells the story of a

voman he knows who urged her new husband to get rid of his gun, saying she would not have it in her house. Some days later she found herself alone in the house when burglars struck. Terrified, she locked herself in her bedroom. When she saw the door handle being tested she shouted: "You guys had better get out of here, cause I have a gun."

The burglars promptly fled, and the woman is now not only a member of the local gun Bronfman, a first-class marks-

Sex change operations don't work

Nigella Lawson wonders if there is not a better way to solve the sufferings of transsexuals

the Royal Family or the airing of insufficiently sentimental and therefore un-English views about animals inevitably excite the biggest postbag But for sheer vitriol and threatening aggression — or perhaps rather more you cannot beat the transsex-

ual correspondent. I have twice, in completely different contexts, written about transsexuality. In neither case did I ridicule or sneer at those who claim to be trapped — that is inevita-bly, word for word, the complaint — in the wrong body, but I did question them, and it and hence a batch of letters, the hostility of which it is hard to convey. Perhaps one of the most

transsexual is that there is no other interpretation allowed of their malaise than the one they choose to put on it. s tonight's moving

A television programme, The Wrong Body (part of Channel 4's Decision series) shows, even while transsexuals complain about the intolerance that the rest of us have for them and their condition, it is they who are so intolerant. In the first instance, they

cannot tolerate their sex, in fact are so unable to tolerate it that the only way they have of dealing with it is first to deny it and then, if possible, to do away with it.

tends to a refusal to consider any other explanation for their distress, indeed to a tendency to feel annihilated by any such unauthorised approach. There is obviously an identity problem here, but I cannot help feeling that it is not one that can always so easily be solved with a sexchange operation — or, as it is now called, gender

The issue of this operation, and whether it should be Health Service, is becoming ever hotter. More and more health authorities are refusing treatment, and indeed only last week a number of transsexuals who have been unable to receive the treatment they want on the NHS began legal action to try to enforce their rights to it.

At the same time, a rather more straightforward legal battle is being fought to

their birth certificates following surgery, so that their sex they have been changed into. I'll agree that it does seem crassly illogical to allow people to have sex-change operations perfectly legally, but then use the law to prevent their living as the

DUITDOSES, become. What I'm not saying is that such operations should be outlawed. Those who

sex they've, to all intents and

right? I know psychiatric care is already provided, but there must be some kind of approach that might help people to really work out what is at the root of this incredible distress.

I was stunned in the programme by two unconcouple of the girls who wish to be boys. The one, in her/his late teens, spoke of her/his horror at developing breasts at puberty: "I wanted to be like my father." The



April Ashley, left, Britain's best-known transsexual

wombs and penises removed are right, of course, to say that it is their body, their choice. The NHS may also be right, at times, to respond that it is their budget, their choice. But it must be wrong for the issue to be decided on grounds of funds and fiis the nature of the problem and what therefore is the appropriate treatment?

Treatment there should definitely be - these people are suffering horrendously

— but I cannot see that this should inevitably be in the form of surgery. All transsexuals are utterly convinced trapped in the wrong body.

But does this make them

up by mother and stepfather, said that she/he wanted to be called Rick - "short for Richard which is my Dad's name". You don't need to be Freud to see there is something going on there.

The voiceover of tonight's programme, however, reshowed that their brains accorded with the sex they thought they should be rather than with the sex their genes made them. This, if true, would indeed be staggering evidence, though the its reporting hardly makes it sound, thus far, conclusive. Body is on Channel 4 at 9pm.



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Look out for the red-head with platinum labels

will also get the silver luggage tags which are the must have

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eller, and make you king of

AT FIRST glance, the well-groomed business traveller, with his Louis Vuitton luggage and 96-page passport, may not appear to have much in common with the snottynosed Cub Scout, more concerned with his woggle than world trade. But they share an obsession — both will do anything to get a gold badge.

The blue, silver and gold tiers of British Airways' Executive Club have become the most important indicators of rank since the erosion of the class system, and an accompa-

nying snobbery is rife.

The Executive Club is linked to the Air Miles scheme a reward for regular business travellers who would not otherwise bother to shop around. But the colour of your membership card is as - ance, bump-ups to first class, much about kudos as

Bottom of the line is the blue card, issued to any business flyer, and used to register the Air Miles which may one day yield a free trip to Torremolinos. But make, say, consecutive return trips to Sydney, New York and Paris, and you have the 700 points needed for promotion to silver membership.

Rampant one upmanship has members slapping as many tickets on their bags as they can, to taunt their envious co-travellers. But according to Alex McWhirter of Business Traveller magazine, the scheme has its dark side.

and general sycophancy.

"In America," he says, "people are so desperate for gold status that they take roundabout routes to accrue The new card will get you Air Miles - flying New York her luggage, you can be fairly into the executive lounges to London via Zurich; for sure it is someone using up normally reserved for first example - and agents are her free mileage.

having to police business routes because 'clubbers' are costing companies money." Suddenly, no more register-ing Air Miles in your wife's

by Giles Coren

name to beat the taxman -Until of course, someone for without them your status will remain blue. And no arrives with a gold tag on his more unclaimed Air Miles briefcase. He will have made either — at present there are 2.75 billion in circulation. at least another three trips to Australia, and can expert enough to take an adventurairport staff to notice his label ous businessman to Neptune. and whisk him off for priority One mystery remains. check-in, free travel insur-"There is a premier card." a

BA spokesman told me. "But we do not talk about it. I can say no more than that it is issued only to our most valholds the card to be platinum. but who has one and how far they had to go is shrouded in secrecy. The Duchess of York, it is said, must now be close to the premier league. So if ever you see a red-head in sunglasses with platinum tags on her luggage, you can be fairly



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Judgment day for the educators

Chris Woodhead charts the way

forward for failing schools

rimary schools, for so long the poor relation of secondary, are now very much in the public eye. The most important conclusion in my annual report as Senior Chief Inspector of Schools. published yesterday, is that standards of literacy and numeracy must be raised. The second is that the quality of teaching in the junior age range must be improved significantly in perhaps half o all primary schools.

Why does underachievement remain endemic in so many schools? Why is it that, despite the hard work and dedication, the genuine concern for children which the majority of teachers demonstrate, it is proving so hard to raise standards? If some schools can do it, why can't others? Why is it that standards need to be raised in half of all primary schools, when in others the quality of teaching and standards of pupil achievement are so exception-ally high? What is happening in these outstanding schools which has yet to happen in many others?

Over the past year or so, I have put these questions to primary head teachers in meetings across the country.

Nobody can defend a situation in which If some between 20 per cent and 30 per cent of schools can lessons are unsatisfactorily taught. So do it, why why has nothing happened? can't all the One set of an-

others?

swers concerns the context in which teachers work. If

primary schools had more resources. I am told, then standards would immediately rise. If the media, fuelled by evidence from "negative and punitive" inspection reports. did not focus remorselessly on weaknesses and depress morale, then all would be well. If the Government had not "imposed" an unworkable national curriculum and pushed through a huge programme of reform at unworkable speed. then, I am told, there would be

There is a truth in each of these responses. A minority of schools are clearly experiencing significant difficulties in providing resources for the national curriculum. Ofsted has a responsibility to identify success as well as failure. I recognise that the national curriculum has had to be

But these arguments are not a sufficient explanation. The problems lie as much within the profession as without. To begin with, there is the pressing need to do more than has been done in the past about the minority of incompetent teachers who are failing our children. They are an extremely serious problem, but, given proper management will, it is relatively tractable.

What is much more difficult being both more nebulous and more pervasive - is the failure to question be-liefs, about the nature of education and how children should be taught, which in practice obstruct their intellectual development. I have in mind, for example, the belief that the national curriculum militates against the teacher's

responsibility to develop the unique potential of each child; the antipathy to didactic teaching, and the reluctance to challenge children which flows from the concept of the all else, the continuing commitment to such ideas in too many schools explains why it is proving so difficult to raise standards of primary

these beliefs. In part, they stem from the influence of academics and educational advisers who are not convinced of the need to rethink current assumptions about what and how children should be

faught.
Furthermore, primary teachers, unlike their secondary colleagues, have never had a professional identity which relates to the subject they teach. The secondary teacher is usually a graduate in a particular discipline. Not so the primary teacher, who, after four years spent studying a range of academic subjects and a number of courses in the theory and practice of education, has, more often than not, to teach all nine subjects of the national curriculum. So,

inadequately prepared, and faced with a challenge of this magnitude, some primary teachers understandably embrace an educational theory which plays down the importance of intellectual content, and puts a concern for the child at the heart of the

educational process. Every-thing possible, therefore, must be done in the initial and inservice training of teachers to ensure that they have the firm grasp of the subject knowledge

eyond this, the key to

Braising standards lies in the new system of school inspections. Before 1992, a primary school could expect to be inspected once every 200 years. Now it is once quence, the gap between the achievements of the outstanding and the failure of the weaker schools has been thrown into sharp relief. This is true not just when comparing schools in leafy suburbs with those in inner cities. Schools serving very similar communities achieve very different results. The clearer this variation in achievement becomes, the less easy it is for anyone to justify it.

Not surprisingly, those who feel most threatened by the spotlight of accountability have mounted a vigorous attack on an inspection regime which they deem to be "judg-mental" and "punitive". Judgmental, yes. To inspect a school obviously means coming to a conclusion about its strengths and weaknesses. If a school is failing, then its weaknesses need to be brought out into the open, so that parents are informed and something can be done. Bu is this really "punitive"? Only, I would have thought, to those teachers who are unable to accept that they must be accountable to the parents of the children they



Stringing us along

itty, adventurous, un-troubled by scruple, Becky Sharp of Vanity Fair is one of the great archetypes of literature. Nobody, from her landlord to the baby's wet-nurse, was paid if it could be avoided: she haggled out of old debts at ninepence in the pound, and immediately borrowed more. When she did pay a little on account, she did it with such pretty speeches that the credi-tors were lulled into a false security. Michael Heseltine would have been

proud of her. That novel was published in 1847, and proves that 150 years ago there was already a recognised and established tradition in this country of, as Mr Heseltine has jovially put it, being "quite skilful at stringing along the creditors". Late payment, he said. is part of the culture of British business. Challenged, he stuck to his guns, saying that growing businesses need tolerance. "It is precisely because I started a small business from scratch, lived with the problems of it, accepted the discipline of it and survived the competitive race that I

Read that carefully, twice. We shall come back to it. It is a not unappealing argument, especially from a man who now seems so rich and secure. The Deputy Prime Minister could have turned respectable on us and denied his past; his party rather wishes he had. But no, he is still proud of the fact that he started out with a tiny capital and muscled his way into the big league. "Everyone got paid in the end, and that is all they care about," he added.

Yesterday his old business partner, lan Josephs, elaborated on how they did it. They sent out cheques with only one signature, which were then refused by the bank, and pretended it was a mistake. They made sure words and figures on the cheque did not match (banks used to check such things). "If someone did serve a writ." says Mr Josephs, "So what? You don't answer it or you say you don't owe it. If it got to court, by then you would have the money and you could pay the bloke . . . it is just a question of nerve." Indeed; and he does not even mention the dozen other routine

tactics for delaying due payments.
You can pretend the invoice never arrived, query the VAT number, or laughingly explain that another supplier of the same name has been credited with the "moneys". You can confide that Accounts has relocated to Michael Heseltine is wrong to defend

late payers who are indebted to small

businesses to the tune of £20 billion

Swindon: or say in hushed tones that Denise handles group C payments, and Denise's golden-haired child has just been rushed to hospital with a mystery virus. There is the BBC gambit (although I absolve them from doing it on purpose) in which a saintly, aggrieved voice says that since you live in Suffolk, you were "obviously" handled from Birming-harn "until the changeover", so that explains it. Or you can claim a computer virus. A really skilled latepayer can manage to make a creditor feel thoroughly silly for asking after a missing £300, and simultaneously dangle a potential £3,000 job in front

of him as a distraction. The one thing ly do, for all their fabled nerve, is to come right out with it and say they are a bit strapped at the

moment, but confident that a postal order will turn up any minute. Such straightforwardness is not in what Mr Heseltine calls the "culture". Business is about bravado and bluff, and ruder bwords which you may fill in at your leisure while waiting for your favourite debtor to pick up the telephone. These b's add up to £20 billion overdue in Britain at any given moment. Government action on late payment is often promised but never quite delivered. Bravado and bluff continue to make fortunes - and to cost money and time and efficiency and livelihoods. The CBI says one in five small firms feels its very survival

threatened by late payment. Which is where we come back to Mr Heseltine. He claimed to speak on behalf of small businesses needing "tolerance" of their stringing-along behaviour. He himself has "lived with the problems and accepted the discipline" (what discipline?) There is something perilously seductive about that line of talk, and there is no point in us holy-joe chatterers condemning it out of hand. Some of the audience, especially in his own age group, will

have been nodding. The idea of being a nippy little scavenger in the business jungle, "stringing along" big meanies, has some attraction. Most of my friends and neighbours are small traders of some kind, from journalists to caterers, and most of ussay things like "If we go, the NatWest goes with us!" However, decent people pay smaller local operators — feed merchants, plumbers, farriers. crockery hirers - on the nail, if not on the day, so transferring the risk instantly to the poor old bank.

But the trouble is, and Mr

Heseltine did not acknowledge this, that today it is not jackals who benefit most from this "culture" of late payof the jungle who have learnt to play TUES have learnt to play the game. For every chirpy little comchirpy little company which uses late payment to

help its cashilow, there are a dozen which are victims of it.

Il the research, including the Latham commission's report on the construction L industry, suggests that what happens is this. Your small specialist supplies a giant company. Whether you are a grower of Brussels sprouts being patronised by a supermarket chain or a supplier of chic tiling for executive homes, a big client is a big break. You rejoice in the order and meet the deadline. The giant doesn't pay. Your wage bill must be met. You sweat, you remortgage your house, you run up an expensive overdraft; you turn down other business because you can't buy materials. But you dare not complain because this is a major customer. They could drop you, and put the word around at livery dinners that Tibbott's Tiles or Sussex Sprout. Farms is bad news. So you wait. They pay — eventually, but sometimes too late. Any small, precarious operator, from voice-over artistes to engineer-

ing components manufacturers, will

tell you how the fear of going broke struggles with the fear of offending influential clients, and how debilitating it is, sapping creativity, confidence and the very will to survive.

A large company with a legal de-partment can always bully a small one; the reverse is not true. Possibly when naughty young Mike was "stringing along the creditors" in the 1960s, things were different. Perhaps big companies had not become so fly, or unscrupulous. Perhaps — since he dealt in bed-and-breakfast hotels and magazines — he mainly experienced the kind of customers who have to pay upfront, and never suffered from late payers himself. Either way, in the ecology of modern British business his apologia for the stringalong culture is weak, dated and unethical Moreover, while it may fatten a few

big cats, it does nothing for the nation at large. Unethical business is an enemy of prosperity. One company may enrich itself by hanging on to another's money, but the collapse of the creditor firm will cost every taxpayer something. I would take it further: if businesspeople take stupid, esque risks with imaginary money, there will always be Maxwellian or Barings-esque trouble. Margaret Thatcher spent much of the 1980s lecturing us on sound money and good housekeeping, but by some oversight she failed to notice that business was actually behaving more and more like Becky Sharp. And there is no such thing as notional

money: it is always somebody's. Thackeray's account of Becky Sharp ends with a timeless account of the effect all this picturesque buccaneering actually has:

When we read that a nobleman has left for the Continent and owes six or seven millions, the defeat seems glorious even, and we respect the victim in the vastness of his rain. But who nities a poor barber who can't get his money for powdering the fromen's heads; or a poor carpenter who has ruined himself by fixing up ornaments and pavilions for my ladies' dejeuner, or the poor devil of a tailor who has pledged all he is worth and more, to get the liveries ready which my lord has done him the horour to become! done him the honour to bespeak? - when the great house tumbles down, these miserable wretches fall under it unnoticed ... before a man goes to the devil himself he sends plenty of other

Of course, Mr Heseltine was able to pay everybody, eventually.

Betrayal of honest thinking ...

Bring back

imagination, says

Anatole Kaletsky

hat will become of Europe if Europeans lose their capacity to think? As they mouth slogans about competitiveness and the challenge of the global market, Europe's politicians and business-men are in danger of forgetting that Europe has one and only one genuine competitive advantage: the capacity to think, to argue, to defy conventional authority and so to innovate. If Europeans lose the ability to think openly and critically, we will indeed be overtaken by such closed societies as China, not to mention Korea and

Yet clear, honest thinkers are an endangered species in Europe. Many politicians, especially in Brussels and Paris, seem determined to extinguish critical debate in European public life. And the paralysis seems to be spreading to business.

This is the frightening thought that struck me at the World Economic Forum, an intellectual cornucopia served every winter in the Swiss resort of Davos to a thousand businessmen by an astonishing array of politicians, economic officials, management theorists and Nobel prizewinning scientists and artists. This year two contradictory leitmotifs ran through the forum. For the Americans and Asians, the Central Europeans and even many of the Russians, the future seemed to be full of the excitement of new technology and new political systems, the oppor-tunities of emering the global market and recasting management struc-tures in a world of constant innovation and rapid growth.

But the West Europeans seemed to

be living on a different planet. For our politicians, the great issues were not the future of Russia or America's increasing lead in the industries of the future, but monetary union and EU enlargement. For our businessmen, competitiveness was not about harnessing technology or turning change into a factor of competitive advantage; it was a matter of governments reducing regulation, unions accepting lower wages and elector-ates agreeing to welfare reforms.

The Americans and Asians seemed to be pulling out of the gloom of the last recession, preparing for growth and taking responsibility for their own future. The Europeans seemed always to be looking backwards — to the Treaty of Maastricht or the heyday of the welfare state - and trying to pass the buck, from business to government or from politi-

Worse still was the absence of. honest debate or intellectual curiosity. among the Europeans. Monolithic thinking is suffocating Europe's political culture. The obsession with EMU has distracted politicians from much more important matters, suchas the relationships with America and Russia, reform of the welfare state and even the monetary arrangements between the dollar and the mark. To make things worse, having focused all their attention on EMU they have now declared EMU out o bounds for serious debate. The future of Europe is deemed to revolve around EMU, but any open discus sion about EMU is deemed anti-European. Ergo it is now anti-European to discuss Europe's future

This conspiracy of silence es plains much of the disillusion ment with politics in Europe as well as the woeful mismanage ment of monetary policy in bot Germany and France. But whs struck me in Davos was that mone lithic thinking also threatens Et rope's economic and business life.

Consider Europe's present obse

sion with competitiveness. Intern: tional competitiveness, like EMU, probably the wrong issue to preocc py Europe's businessmen in 199 But more serious still, the ne political correctness has made impossible even to discuss compe tiveness intelligently.

International competition is or tainly not the only reason why Eu ope's unemployment is so high why our welfare states must reformed. Unemployment is al-caused by lack of demand, bad ma agement and labour relations and backward industrial structure. T welfare state needs reform because will eventually go bankrupt, r because of competition from Jap . and America.

But suppose I am wrong and I root cause of Europe's problems high labour costs, relative to Amerand Japan. Then economics sugge a simple, quick and reliable answ ease monetary policy until Europe currencies fall sharply against dollar and yen. In practice, such a valuation might not be easy or mit have unwelcome side-effects: but discuss competitiveness without ex mentioning monetary policy a exchange rates is either ignorant dishonest. Yet that is exactly the in lectual betrayal now being enforce.

So there you have it. Europ politicians have imposed on the selves a vow of silence over what t have deemed the most import issue of the decade: EMU. Euroj business leaders refuse to discuss central issue in the competitiver debate. Perhaps the outlook for E ope really is grim in a new centi when the only currencies of value P·H·S be knowledge, imagination and in pendent thought.

Stable for two

IT IS A marriage that even the most sceptical punter would rate a racing cert to breed success. Frankie Dettori, the irrepressible Italian-born jockey, who has twice been British champion, is to marry Catherine Allen, daughter of Cam-

fessor of equine reproduction. Dettori, 25, who on Lammtarra won Ascor's King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes, as well as the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe last year, met Catherine at the yard of the trainer David bridge University's first pro- Loder, where she rides. She is



Frankie and Catherine: at the starting line

training to be a teacher, but has an excellent racing pedigree. Her father is Professor "Twink" Allen who in the autumn took up his regius saddle at Cambridge, after consulting on stud reproductive matters for Sheikh Mohammed.

The jockey has an infectious laugh, and his flamboyant dismounting style has raised eyebrows in the winner's enclosure. But when it came to proposing, he took a leaf out of the chivalrous book of old, popping the question in an Italian restaurant with an attentive audience. A hush descended as fellow diners held their breath to see if she would accept.

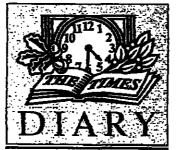
"It was a nerve-racking experience, but during the dessert I got on my knee and asked her, and she said yes," says Dettori. Lammtarra apparently tops the wedding invitation list.

Beer here

en de la composition La composition de la

TONY BLAIR has accepted a sporting challenge in the House of Commons this Thursday, which should calm fears that he is deserting the ale-and-sandwiches brigade of old Labour.

On Thursday, he will be picking up his arrows and "toeing the othe" in a darts match to commentation of Brodrick Haldane, the delightful society photographer who died last orate ten years of the provision in the Commons of Federation. the What to do with his birds? For



Newcastle beer. His opponent will be John Lowe, twice world darts champion, who is no more shapely

● The rougher types at Westmin-ster are questioning William Hague's bottle. The Welsh Secretary was not at Twickenham for the England-Wales match on Saturday. Was it that, as an Englishman — and Yorkshireman to boot — he would have felt queasy cheering for Wales? Or could he not bear the humiliation of gunning for the losing side?

Feather retort

THOSE grappling with the estate of Brodrick Haldane, the delightful

years, Haldane let canaries and finches fly free around his flat in India Street, Edinburgh, making for hazardous tea-parties.

Nigel Buchan-Watt is feeding the six finches and four canaries for now. "If they have names, then

only Brodrick would know," he says. "Perhaps he made provision for them in his will, but we may well be looking for new owners."

Global reach

DOUGLAS HURD is soon to present a BBC documentary series on international relations, but his journalistic career is still burgeoning. The former Foreign Secretary has just signed up to write a column for the Toronto Globe and Mail.

Have British editors shunned him in the mistaken belief that he is too gentlemanly to produce a lively column? The Globe and Mail is not considered a light read, but Hurd's column will surely be no match for that of the former American Secretary of State, James Baker, whose pronouncements are syndicated worldwide to an openmouthed audience of insomniacs.

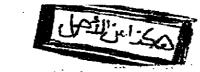
• The Tory candidate for South time. East Staffordshire, Jimmy James, is aware of the pitfalls of constituency canvassing. At the 1992 elec-

tion, he was fighting Dennis Skin-ner in Bolsover, unaware of the popularity of the northern comedian Jimmy James, who died in the 1960s. Approaching one house in Bolsover, he announced: "I'm Jimmy James." Bolsover man replied: "And I'm Donald Duck. Now clear

Chill out

FORTUNATELY for South Africa's High Commissioner in London, his country's Transport Minister Mac Maharaj îs a forgiving man. In London to speak to businessmen, he was greeted by locked doors when he arrived 20 minutes early for a function at South Africa House.

The Minister and other VIPs stood outside in sub-zero temperatures while someone tried to persuade conscientious security guards to open up. Last Septem-ber, Bantu Holomisa, the deputy Tourism Minister, had a similar experience. Mr Maharaj, who was imprisoned on Robben Island with President Mandela, said that he and his friends had "thought about staging a demonstration out there. but someone opened up just in





STAND BY TAIWAN

The West should not turn a blind eye to Peking's provocation

If Russia were to threaten missile attacks on a neighbour, the West would act swiftly to impress on Moscow that military intimidation was intolerable. By contrast, there has been barely any response, even in the US, to threatened to act against foreign forces who equally menacing behaviour by China. Over the past year, Peking has sold missiles and nuclear technology to Iran, grabbed the Mischief Reef on the disputed Spratty Islands. laid claim to parts of Indonesian waters and harassed shipping in the South China Sea. Above all, it has set out to intimidate Taiwan, the prosperous and newly democratic island off China's southeast coast to which Chiang Kai-shek fled in 1949.

Western assumptions that China will not cross the line between psychological warfare and military action against Taiwan require urgent and sceptical review. Having tested the Pentagon's reflexes with a series of military exercises last year, powerful factions in the Chinese military appear to have concluded that America will not intervene.

The uneasy truce with Peking over Taiwan's future has ended since Taiwan's conversion to democracy, which will be complete with next month's direct presidential elections. China sees these elections as a symbolic step towards independence. Officially, Taiwan continues to hold that it is part of "one China", to be peacefully reunited one day with the mainland. But political libertyhas given rein to a flourishing Taiwanese opposition which demands — with some historical justification - sovereign independence. President Lee Teng-hui, the almost certain winner, has sought international recognition short of independence for Taiwan, including membership, as a self-governing territory, of the UN and other international bodies. Elected, he will be strongly placed to press his case that reunification should wait until China has the same democratic, free-market system as Taiwan.

China has always maintained that it would invade Taiwan if it declared independence. Now faced by what it sees as an intolerable affront by a "renegade province", it has deliberately blurred that line. It justifies the use of force on pretexts so vague that they could cover almost any Chinese whim, greatest risk lies in turning a blind eye.

DUO:

"chaos" in Taiwan, or a decision that Taiwan's politicians were covertly bent on "splitting the motherland". In a speech last week Li Peng, the Chinese Prime Minister, attempt to interfere in China's reunification" - a clear "hands-off" signal to America. This month. China is reported to be planning massive military manocuvres in Fujian province, which lies opposite Taiwan and has been declared a "war zone" by Peking. It has pointedly declined to deny reports that it will subject the island to daily missile attacks in the wake of next month's elections.

China could decide on a pre-emptive strike, forcing a imphase between China and America with global implications. The Pentaron consensus is that China is not yet capable of invading. But it could easily launch missile attacks on Taiwan's petrochemical industry, or mount a blockade of the Taiwan Straits by mining sealanes and sealing major ports. Paiwan has fuel and food

reserves for only affew months.

China's neighbours would prefer to look the other way. Singapore's Lee Kuan Yew likened China's grab on the Sprattys last year to "a big dog lifting his leg". Although such leg-lifting is incompatible with China's obligations under international law, even America seems reluctant to say so firmly. It slipped the aircraft carrier Nimitz through the Taiwan Straits last December, but then diluted this already modest message by giving "inclement weather" as the reason.

Indecision is dangerous. China has a history of chaotic and violent changes of dynasty. Contenders for Deng Xiaoping's mantle are tempted to bang the patriotic drum. At such times the military, ardently courted by President Jiang Zemin, exercises enormous influence. Indecision would also be politically hazardous for President Clinton: the Taiwan lobby is one of the strongest in Congress. Before China goes further; he needs to leave Peking in no doubt that, whatever Taiwan's legal status, its right to be left in peace has his determined support. China will denounce any firmness as barbarian provocation; China is the provoker. The

MUST TRY HARDER

Woodhead paints a gloomy picture of teaching practice

Why are British school standards so low? all lead to higher standards. Teachers who Not enough morely, should one side. Too are deployically opposed to these practices much local authority enistrols influst the must been their minds if their pupils are not other. Yesterday the still, small voice of to suffer as a result. Chris Woodhead, Chief Inspector of Schools, A more specific problem, however, is the brought some calm reason to the debate. The dip in standards. Here trackers often lack problem lies with neither of the above, he argues, but with the educational philosophy. and poor quality of many teachers.

Mr Woodhead, in his annual report, concedes that a small minority of schools could benefit from more books and equipment or better accommodation. But cash does not solve the problem of poor feaching in new schools. Nor is the structure and management of education necessarily the culprit. When the intelligence of pupils is taken into account, grant-maintained schools do no better than their local

authority counterparts. His findings make depressing reading. Secondary schools often receive pupils with very low levels of literacy." Standards of numeracy "remain disappointing", A slowing in pupil progress in the first two years of junior school has become a worryingly persistent feature of inspection findings" and "is strongly associated with a fall in the qualityof teaching". Overall, standards of achievement need to be raised in about half of primary and two fifths of secondary schools.

Many of the problems could be addressed simply with a change of attitude among teachers and heads. Research conducted by Ofsted and other bodies provides a wealth of guidance about which teaching methods work best. The use of phonics (sounding out letters) in reading, more whole-class teaching, and the grouping of children by ability

mary schooling. Here teachers often lack confidence in some subjects; this insecurity feeds through to the children. It is hardly surprising that the standard of teaching falls when teachers are expected to be equally competent in English, mathematics, geography, science, history, design, religious education and information technology - all at the level required by a ten-year-old. Private schools see the merit of moving to specialist teaching at the age of eight; state schools, as far as possible, could follow suit.

Mr Woodhead identifies about 15,000 teachers who can be classed as "poor". Some may be irredeemably so, and should not re-main in their jobs. But others could benefit from further training in the subjects in which they are weak. Here, targeted extra spending would surely bear fruit. For the education of a child can be blighted, sometimes for good, by having a bad class teacher for a whole year of primary education.

The other way of raising standards in primany schools is to give parents more information. So it is welcome, if overdue, that Gillian Shephard has agreed to publish league tables of 11-year-old test results. At the moment, parents have little more than word of mouth to rely upon in choosing a primary school. From next year, they will have hard facts. Primary schools will then have all the incentives to improve that are already raising standards in the secondary sector.

HEROES OF SPORT

Australia must play up, play up and play the game

The current Australian cricket team may be good at winning cricket matches, but they confirmed yesterday that they lack their predecessors' understanding of the game's true spirit. In deciding to forfeit their match against Sri Lanka in the forthcoming World-Cup - to be played in Colombo - they have acted neither with courage nor with diplomacy. Instead, they have upset the organisation of a complex tournament and han state or government" — ought to calm the ded a propaganda victory to the murderous Tamil rebels who hold Sri Lanka to ransom.

Cricket has never lacked squabbles and tiffs, but not since the Bodyline series has the game been such a fecund source of diplomatic friction. Consider the words of Lakshman Kadirgamar, the urbane Sri Lankan Foreign Minister, spoken yesterday to Gareth Evans, his Australian counterpart If any campaign is mounted by the Australian Government to persuade other countries not to come for their matches, it would be considered a hostile act in relations with the Government of Sri Lanka." The West Indies appear, on latest accounts, to have followed the Australian example: but there can be no doubt that the cricket administrators of the distant Caribbean islands would not even have contemplated such a step had not

Australia set such a craven example Inevitably there will be pressure on Collost an important game off it.

ombo to concede the political match. If two of the four games cannot take place, the island leg of the World Cup will of course be devalued by those who fail to meet their sporting commitments. Yet few love their cricket more passionately than do the Sri Lankans, and the security guarantees extended to all players by the Government there - "equivalent to that provided for visiting heads of partic of all but the most fearful. If those arrangements would be good enough for the Oueen or Paul Keating, the Australian Prime Minister, they ought to be good enough for Shane Warne. There is an offer, also, to fly the players in and out from south India on the day of the match itself.

Since the World Cup does not begin until the 14th of this month, pressure will not abate to transfer matches from Sri Lanka to India or Pakistan. Ultimately, the decision to play or not to play - and where - depends on the organisers of the tournament; in close consultation with the host Governments. The Sri Lankan games may eventually be played elsewhere; but that would be a noball. A strife torn island would be deprived of important days of sport and pleasure. The terrorists would have won a victory. Austraha's cricketers, winners on the field, have

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Heseltine's bills advice under fire

From Mrs Barbara Roche, MP for Hornsey and Wood Green (Labour)

Sir. The criticism of the Deputy Prime Minister for boasting about not pay-ing creditors on time ("Heseltine at-tacked for bill advice", report, February 5) is amply justified. John Gummer, however, cannot get away with saying that government "has set itself the target of becoming a best-practice

Answers to parliamentary questions I have recently received suggest that last year across Whitehall at least £232 million was paid late by government departments, and the worst offender — the Treasury — paid 25 per cent of its bills late.

Yet, like Mr Heseltine, ministers do not seem unduly concerned about this. Angela Knight, economic secretary to the Treasury, wrote to the Director-General of the CBI last month that her department's record for late payment of bills between the end of the 1994-95 and the start of the 1995-96 financial years was "not exactly the

'crime' it has been portrayed".

I have asked the Public Accounts
Committee to investigate the scandal of late payment by government departments. Small firms are hit hardest by late payment, with some going to the wall and others being unable to invest and grow because of cashflow problems.

Small businesses are the backbone of the British economy and the Goverument should be supporting them, not sanctioning kicking them in the

Yours sincerely. BARBARA ROCHE (Shadow Small Business Minister), House of Commons. February 5.-

From Mr A. L. Lunt

Sir, Mr Michael Heseltine's defence of the practice of delaying payments to suppliers will be taken as justification by those who pursue this policy, and will be abhorred by all who have a policy of on-time payment and expect the same in return. Late payment is little short of steal-

ing; by forcing a weaker company to

borrow and pay interest, or to forego interest, it is certainly dishonest. Mr Heseltine's statement does no credit to him or to the party he and I support. To restore its reputation the Government should reject his position un-equivocally. Legislation for compan-ies to have the right to receive interest when payments are delayed without justifiable cause is now overdue.

Yours faithfully, ANTHONY L. LUNT. 40 Stile Hall Gardens, W4. February 4.

Living languages

From Emeritus Professor

Sir, Mr Norman Berdichevsky (letter, January 27) refers to a figure of 550,000 speaking, reading or writing Welsh, derived from the Census and included in the book A Geography of the Welsh Language 1961-1991 by Professor J. A. Aitchison and myself. He should have referred to "speaking.

reading or writing Welsh in Wales". In spite of consistent requests the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys refuses to ask the question as to ability in Welsh in the rest of the United Kingdom. There is no way, therefore, of knowing the total number of Welsh speakers.

The crudest estimate, by taking the numbers in the rest of the UK born in Wales and assuming that the proportion of Welsh speakers in Wales can be applied to it, would suggest that there are something like an additional 100,000 on top of those actually recorded in the Census.

The questions on Welsh, Gaelic and Irish should be asked in a standard format throughout the UK so that a proper enumeration of these languages is obtained.

HAROLD CARTER, Tyle Bach, Maes Y Garn, Bow Street, Aberystwyth, Dyfed. January 29.

Yours faithfully.

Fair shares for all in the broadcasting of major sports

From the Chief Executive of the Rugby Football League and others

Sir, Nobody should be surprised by the current frenzy surrounding the public debate about broadcasting and its future relationship with sport (Right to view strikes back as pay to view", Sport, February 5).

The fact that an overwhelming majority of people care passionately about sport and their access to it, whether as participants or spectators, is a considerable comfort to all sports governing

In the past five years the cosy terrestrial duopoly has been broken and a true market established for sporting rights. The financial benefits flowing from this have enabled us to provide better stadia and better training facilities, more help for the stars of tomorrow and, crucially, a better prospect of higher standards of achievement on

exposure of sport through the media.

— not just for the traditional sports but also for those such as ice hockey or basketball which have had coverage umhinkable in the days of the cartel. So who really has been the loser? Certainly not Sky, which has brought dedicated sports channels to Britain for the first time and filled them overwhelmingly with quality sports ac-

There has also been a boom in the

able to the domestic audience. As for the terrestrial channels, why the shrieks of anguish when, within the past year, long-term contracts have been signed with the BBC or ITV for FA Cup and England football coverage, Formula One motor racing,

tion, much of it previously unavail-

and Wimbledon lawn tennis - not to mention the Olympic Games?

It is in nobody's interest that sport should be available merely to two men and a dog, at whatever price to the broadcasters. Let the politicians debate the issue by all means. But let them also be certain that they really know better than sport itself what is best for the future.

Yours faithfully, MAURICE LINDSAY (Chairman, Major Speciator Sports Division, CCPR: Chief Executive, Rugby Football League). MICHAEL BONALLACK (Secretary, Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews). TONY HALLETT (Secretary, Rugby Football Union), GRAHAM KELLY (Chief Executive, The Football Association). IAN PEACOCK Lawn Termis Association).

ALAN SMITH (Chief Executive, Test & Country Cricket Board). The Central Council of Physical Recreation. Francis House, Francis Street, SWI. February 5.

From Mr Steven Barnett

Sir. The House of Lords has the opportunity tomorrow to vote on a piece of legislation which will, in my view, instantly endear it to the great majority of voters. A proposed amendment to the Broadcasting Bill reinstates the principle of "listed" sporting events which I believe, as part of our national heritage, should be freely available to

all on terrestrial television.

Such an amendment will instantly reassure the 80 per cent of households who do not have satellite or cable television that they will continue to get live coverage of the country's major sporting events for the cost of a licence fee. The argument that such a provision will prevent sporting bodies from realising the full market potential for their sports no longer holds water; the fierce competition between the BBC. ITV, Channel 4 and from next year Channel 5. will ensure that a proper

market for sports rights is preserved. It is important that their Lordships are not distracted by the Government's "consultation" paper on TV sport (report, February 3). Virginia Bottomley's stated intention to "focus the debate" is a disingenuous ploy heavily dependent on figures and arguments from BSkyB — to deflect what appears to be a likely government defeat.

There is no doubt about the weight of popular opinion, and public fears have been fuelled by The News Corporation's recent bid for the Olympic Games. If the House of Lords has the courage to follow its instincts on this issue, it will earn the thanks of a very grateful viewing

Yours faithfully, STEVEN BARNETT (Author, Games and Sets: the changing face of sport on television), University of Westminster,

Watford Road. Northwick Park, Harrow, Middlesex. February 4.

tra £40,000 on the building costs, the

financial gain is probably nil. The in-

terest on this amount ought to pro-

duce at least £2,400 per annum, and that should be sufficient to pay for the

expected heating costs in a similar but

standard house, together with the pet-

13 The Village, Bodelwyddan, Clwyd.

rol for up to 12,000 miles a year.

Yours faithfully, ALAN CHALLONER,

January 28.

School of Communication.

Self-sufficient living

From Mr P. F. de Cuyper

Sir, Your leading feature in the Weekend section of January 27, "This house and car cost nothing to run". has much to commend it in raising the profile of energy self-sufficiency and especially in proving that such designs can work in practice. It suggests that self-sufficiency can be achieved at fairly modest incremental capital cost of 25 per cent - an extra £40,000 in addition to a traditional cost of £160,000.

If this was correct, then we should all be building to the standards in Dr Susan Roaf's house as the payback period of the additional investment would be counted in years rather than

My own limited experience of building a self-sufficient dwelling, now in course of construction, without recourse to arry lossu gest an incremental cost per square foot in the order of 60 to 75 per cent primarily due to converting theoretical design ideas into engineering reality. This is compounded when executing an untested project within plan-

ning constraints on a fixed cost basis. Moreover, as your article points

out, the design has to rely on more than one energy source to top up any shortfall in the main supply - in Dr Roaf's case, solar topped up with a condensing boiler burning fossil fuel. I have also looked at solar as a main source, but topped up with a small wind-powered generator to counter the loss of efficiency of solar energy in winter, when loads are invariably increased

Our European neighbours buy surplus energy from domestic renewable sources at the price they charge rather than at a fraction of their cheapest rate, as is the case in the UK. The regional electricity companies may wish to take note in view of last week's threat of a national electricity short-

Yours faithfully, P. F. de CUYPER, 2a Shirleys, Lewes Road, Ditchling, East Sussex. February 5

From Mr M. A. Challoner

Sir, I admire Dr Roaf's science and enthusiasm in having constructed 26 Blandford Avenue. Unfortunately I cannot afford to do the same.

However, I take some comfort from the fact that, by her spending of an ex-

batteries do not last forever.

knowing that the power used by Dr Roaf for her house and car is not the product of any polluting process (excluding that caused during the manufacture of the solar panels and the car batteries); but it is most certainly not

EU and defence

From Mr John Wilkinson, MP for Ruislip Northwood (Conservative)

Sir, The French Defence Minister Charles Millon, is quoted ("French policy boost for British Aerospace", January 25) as saying that "we think it better to create a European arms industry, thus alliances between companies, thus common programmes. thus a European weapons agency".

These sentiments were echoed in a European Commission communication launched the same week by Commissioner Bangemann proposing that EU rules on state aid, competition and the award of public contracts should apply to the defence industry. This would involve harmonising import duties and tackling distortions due to differences between national export control policies.

in the debate on the Royal Navy on February 1 the Minister for Defence Procurement, James Arbuthnot, MP. stated that "collaboration especially in Europe will be increasingly important in the future. That is why we are pur-suing the concept of a European armaments agency and why we wish to participate in the Franco-German armaments structure that came into being at the start of 1996" (Hansard, Vol 270, No 41, cols 1141-2).

May I inject a note of caution? First, weapons procurement is best achieved by commercially-driven industrial arrangements, not by the superimposition of bureaucratic European agen-

Second, any policy which impaired the Armed Forces' ability to buy the most cost-effective equipment from any appropriate source must reduce their operational effectiveness. Collaboration with American manufacturers can be just as fruitful as that with European companies.

Finally the European Union has an ambition to arrogate to itself a defence role. The means envisaged are through EU control of arms development, production and procurement. However, defence rightly remains the prerogative of sovereign states whose defence budgets are voted by national parliaments. Likewise, export licensing of armaments should remain the responsibility of the British Government answerable to the British Parlia-

Yours faithfully JOHN WILKINSON, House of Commons.

February 2.

Millennium events

From Dr Derek Nuttall

Sir. In considering suitable ways of celebrating the millennium (Simon Jenkins, January 27) would it not be appropriate to recognise in some permanent form the contribution made to civilisation during the last thousand years through the book and the print-

By the start of the 21st century, it is highly probable that new means of communication will have virtually superseded books, magazines and newspapers.

How about a "Museum of the Book" where the skills of calligraphers, illuminators, and bookbinders. along with the many ingenious machines and technical processes developed for letterpress, lithographic and intaglio printing, could be preserved for those who will follow us in the third millennium?

Yours sincerely, D. NUITALL, Langdale. Pulford Lane. Dodleston, Chester, Cheshire. January 29.

From Mr M. R. Adams

Sir, May I suggest a millennium scholarship trust to last into the conceiv able future. This would avoid wasteful expenditure on grotesque buildings, controversial celebrations or sculptural and artistic abominations. Each university in the United King-

dom and Ireland should devise a number of studies in important and imaginative areas. The awards should be for UK and Ireland nationals only and the studies should take place at the university which makes he award. Since Christ is the cause of the mil-

lennium but not of conflict between Christian denominations, no studies should upset Christian beliefs. Religion should not be a subject for any of the studies nor should the media or sport, and medicine should account for no more than a small element, The trust should be set up immediately with its members being chosen

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number -0171-782 5046.

in such a way that it will be guaranteed from its conception to be an organisation of great importance and of

Yours faithfully, MICHAEL ADAMS. The Willows, Dulcote, Wells, Somerset. February 2

From Mr Edward Armitage

Sir, Instead of a national monument or enterprise, or even in addition to a national effort to mark the millennium, might I suggest that each county be encouraged to embark on a project that would display that county's features and character.

One can already envisage a most exhilarating and educational holiday tour of all the county exhibits - a grand tour of Britain. in fact, rivalling in esteem the previous exhibitions of 50 and 100 years ago and, one would hope, of a more permanent nature.

Yours sincerely EDWARD ARMITAGE, 11 Cambridge Road, Ely, Cambridge. January 31.

From Dr T. D. Andrews Sir, What is the annual cost of replacement batteries for Dr Roaf's threeseater Kewet El-Jet electric car? Such

Granted there is satisfaction in

Yours faithfully. T. D. ANDREWS, Clapper Farm House, East Bergholt, Colchester, Essex. February 2.

Here today ...

From Dr William Alcock

Sir, Mr Winston Graham (letter, February 2) wonders why the snow which fell in his area on January 26 had almost gone within three days although the ambient temperature during the period never rose above the freezing point of water (32F).

Certain substances have the property of changing, in certain circumstances, from the solid to the vapour state without first melting: water in the form of ice is one, iodine in crystal form is another.

The condition is known as sublimation. Mr Graham's snow vaporised.

Yours faithfully, W. ALCOCK, 46 Park Road. Watford, Hertfordshire. February 2.

S for serendipity

From Mrs Anne Tayler

Sir, I have been sent The Complete Guide to What's on Talking Tapes and I would like to share parts of it with you.

Serendipity, I think, is the word that best describes the pleasure to be found in searching its pages for your favour-ite writer or title. Your own Alan Coren is listed under A for Alan, and Eliot under TS. Having grasped this the Sherlock Holmes fan will flick the pages back to A for Arthur Conan Doyle, and be foiled, for Conan Doyle is under S for Sir Arthur.

Byron, naturally, is under L for Lord. Hamlet and Measure for Measure appear, though, under S for Shakespeare and not W for William: never mind, the missing William turns up for The Canterbury Tales under - yes, William Chaucer. 1 have looked in vain for Lines Written upon Westminster Bridge under G for

Geoffrey Wordsworth. One of my favourites is A Tale of Two Cities in the S (for Shakespeare)

Having completed one's order for Talking Tapes, it is reassuring to know that it will be dealt with by "experienced, knowledgeable telephone operators". Happy listening!

Yours faithfully, ANNE TAYLER 8 North Street. Nazeing, nr Waltham Abbey, Essex.

February 1.



COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM, NORFOLK February 4: Mr Frederick Waite was received by The Queen when Her Majesty invested him with the Insignia of a Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order.

ST JAMES'S PALACE February 5: The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, Army Air Corps, this morning received Lieutenant Colonel Michael Wawn upon relinquishing his appointment as mandant. School of Aviation, and Lieutenant Colonel Nigel

appointment. His Royal Highness this afternoon presented the Lau-rent-Perrier Champagne Award for Wild Game Conservation at Apsley House, London WI.
The Prince of Wales, President The Prince of Wales's Institute of

Architecture, later held a meeting of the institute's Council at St James's Palace. His Royal Highness afterwards received the Rt Hon John Major MP (Prime Minister and First

Birthdays today

the accession of The Oueen.

Lord of the Treasury).

Today's royal engagements

The Prince of Wales will visit the Design of the Times exhibition and attend a centenary dinner at the Royal College of Art at 7.30. Princess Alexandra will visit the Cassel Hospital, I Ham Common, Richmond, at 11.30. The Duke of Kent will attend a reception for the Transnet Libertas Choir of South Africa, hosted by

the Commonwealth Secretary-General, at Marlborough House

The Right Hon Viscount Watkinson, PC, CH

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Harold, Viscount Watkinson, of Woking, will take place in St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey, at noon on Wednesday, April 24. Those wishing to attend are requested to apply ing to attend are requested to apply for tickets to: The Rector's Secretary, Room 24. I Little Cloister. Westminster Abbey, SWIP 3PL, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope. Tickets will be posted on

Lavinia Duchess of Norfolk, LG

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Lavinia Duchess of Norfolk, LG, will be held in the Cathedral of Our Lady and St Philip Howard, Arundel at 2.30pm on Friday, March I, 1996. Admission is by ticket only. Please apply to The Dover House, Poling, Arundel, West Sussex, BNI8 9PX, by Feb-ruary 12, 1996.

President, 85; Lord Roskill, 85; Mr Brian Simpson, MEP. 43; Mr Jimmy Tarbuck, comedian. 56; Mr Fred Trueman, cricketer, 65; Mr

Today's events The Queen's Life Guard mounts Horse Guards at 11.00.

actress, 53: Mr Patrick MacNee, actor, 74: Mr George Mudie, MP, 51: Mr Denis Norden, scriptwriter and broadcaster, 74: Mr Manuel

Orantes, tennis player, 47; Mr Ronald Reagan, former American

Keith Waterhouse, writer, 67; Mr

Kevin Whately, actor, 45.

Meeting

Royal Over-Seas League Dr Alan Sked was the guest speaker or Aun Seeu was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Discussion Circle of the Royal Over-Seas League held last night at Over-Seas House, St James's. Miss Hazel Ellis presided.

Legal appointment Mr Justice Butterfield to be a judge of the Employment Appeal Tribunal.

Dinners

Chatham Dining Club The Earl of Limerick presided at a dinner of the Chatham Dining Club held last night at the St Ermin's Hotel. Mr David Rowland was the principal guest. The Bankers Club

The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Sheriffs, was present at the annual dinner of The Bankers Club beld last night at Guildhall. Lord Alexander of Weedon, QC. Jacques de Larosière. President of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, was the principal speaker.

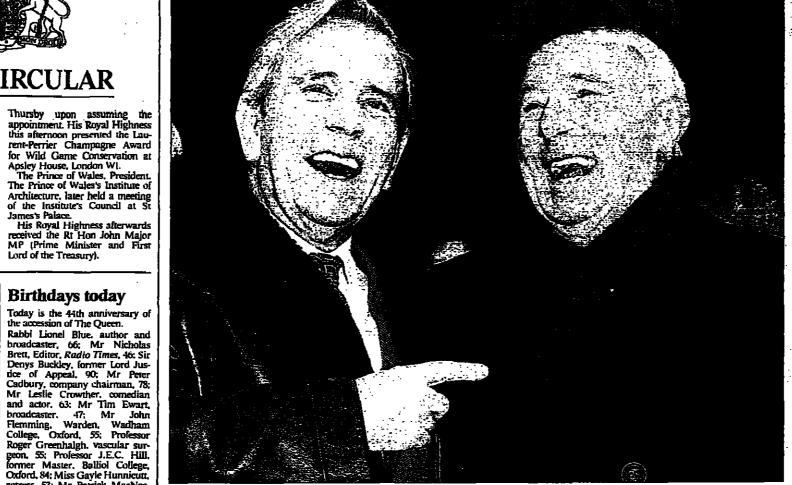
Professor Peter Landsberg was the presided.

principal speaker at a talk dinner held last night at the Athenaeum.

Professor Sir Michael Atiyah, OM.

was in the chair.

Cardiff Business Club The President of Cardiff Business Club. Sir Idwal Pugh, the High Sheriff of South Glamorgan, Mr Wynford Evans, and the Deputy Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Councillo G. Tatham, were present at a dinner held by the Club at the Royal Hotel, Cardiff last night in honour of Mr Ian Plenderleith, Executive Director of the Bank of England. Mr Nigel Falls, Agent of the Bank of England, Bristol,



Norman Wisdom and Ernie Wise arriving yesterday for the memorial service for Billy Marsh, theatrical agent

Memorial service for Billy Marsh

A memorial service of celebration nemoral service of caperation thanksgiving for the life of Mr y Marsh, theatrical agent, was yesterday at St James's, Picca-the Rev Donald Reeves offici-tor, Mr Jim Moir, Mr Bill Cotton, neio yesteruay at 51 James S, Froza-dilly. The Rev Donald Reeves offici-sted. Mr Jim Moir, Mr Bill Cotton, Mr Rolf Harris and Mr Michael Grade paid tribute. Mr Norman Wisdom sang his own

work Don't Laugh at Me 'Cos I'm a Fool. Miss Jacqui Scott sang Oscar Hammerstein II's and Jerome Kern's Hammerstein (I's and Jerome Kern's Bill and Ira and George Gershwin's Someone to Watch Over Me. Miss Lisa Hull sang Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again with words by Charles Harn and Richard Silgoe and music by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Mr Stephen Hill sang Ned Washington's and Leigh Harline's When You Wish Upon a Star. The choir also paid musical ribute. Among others present were: others present were:

others present were:
Mrs T Port (sisted, Mrs Joy Abbott, Mr John Port, Miss Linda Port; Lord and Lady Grade, Lady Delfont, Dame Shirjey Oxenbury.
Mr Jim Kennedy and Mrs Jan Kennedy, Mr and Mrs Emile Wise, Mrs Bill Cotton, Mrs Joan Morecambe, Mr Garry Morecambe, Mrs Tracey Dawson, Ms Mo Moreland, Mr Paul Raymond, Mr Tony Hatch and Miss Jackle Trent, Mr and Mrs Johnnie Mans, Miss Joan Regan, Mr John Inman, Mr Burt Rhodes, Mr Chubby Oates, Mr Richard Spei, Mr David Jacoba, Mr Nicholas Parsons, Mr Richard Johnston, Mr John K Cooper, Mr David Lingwood, Mr Robert de Winner, Mr and Mrs Alvin Stardust, Mr Robin Cousins, Mr Sohn Karlus, Mr Robin Cousins, Mr Sanda Alvan Stardust, Mr Robin Cousins, Mr Sanda Alvan Stardust, Mr Robin Cousins, Mrs Anita Harris.

Mr Mile Yarwood, Mr and Mrs Rolf Harris, Miss Bindi Harris, Mr Ronnie Corbett, Mr Don Black, Mr and Mrs Paul Nicholas, Mr Brian Tesler, Mrs Penny Grade, Mr Harnod Fleiding, Mr Brian Tesler, Mr Rolf Mrs Penny Grade, Mr Harnod Fleiding, Mr Bard Mrs Richard Mills, Mr Barry Stead, Mr Jed Lewenthal, Mr and Mrs Do Thurlow, Mr and Mrs Gerry Kunz, Mrs Zara Land, Mr Geoffrey Irvine, Mr and Mrs Chris Corcoran, Mr Vaughan Kennedy, Mr Garry Brown and Miss Lorna Dallas, Mr Peter Howarth, Mr Eddle Waters, Mr David Taylor, Mr Paul Gyngell, Mr and Mrs Kennesh Earle, Mr David Graham.

Mr and Mrs Paul Han, Mr Kenney Clayton, Mr and Mrs Paul Han, Mr Kenney Clayton, Mr and Mrs Phillp Jones Mrs T Cavanagh, Mr and Mrs David Lewin, Miss Youne Lindewood, Mr Les Cullen, Mrs Susan Shaper, Mrs Elleen Milson, Mr Kenneth Jones, Miss Shella Holt, Miss Rosena, Mr Santon, Mr Richard Johnson, Mrs W Ryder, Mrs Pamela Dutton, Mr John Avery, Mrs Gwyneth Spurling, Mr Dave Preeman, Mr and Mrs Brook Land, Mr Jay Vickers, Mr Jack Douglas, Mr Robert Israel, Mr Henry Gagan, Mr Robert Israel, Mr Henry Gagan, Mr Allstair MacMillan, Mr Tony Harrison, Mr Andrew Michaelides, Ms Nina Yianni.

Mr John Adrian, Mr Philip Hindin, Mr Len Lowe, Mr Ronnie Hazietiurs, Mr John Adrian, Mr Philip Hindin, Mr Len Lowe, Mr Ronnie Hazietiurs, Mr John Adrian, Mr Philip Hindin, Mr Kenney Club of Great Britain, Mr John Adrian Mr Rolon, Mr Sandeman Allen and Mr and Mr Server Holden (Gulmen Mg Club), the Rev Guy Bennett (chapiain, London Paladium).

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Christopher Marlowe, dramatist, Canterbury, 1564; Queen Anne reigned 1702-14, St James's Palace, London, 1665; Sir Henry Irving, actor, Keinton Mandeville, Somerset, 1838; Frederic William Myers, poet and co-founder of the Society of Psy-

chical Research, Keswick, 1843; George (Babe) Ruth, baseball champion. Baltimore, Maryland. 1895; Ramon Novarro, silent film actor, Durango, Mexico, 1899; Bob Marley, singer and songwriter, St Ann's, Jamaica, 1945.

Ann's, Jamaica, 1945.

DEATHS: King Charles II 52, Sandringham, Norfolk, 1952; reigned 1660-85, London, 1685; Lancelot (Capability) Brown, land-



Priestley. Presbyterian minister, Throne, 1685.

chemist, discoverer of oxygen, Northumberland, Pennsylvania, 1804: Ellen Wilkinson, trades unionist and politician, London,

Church news

The Rev Roderick Jones, Selection Secretary, Advisory Board of Min-istry, Church House, Westminster. to be Vicar, St Mary the Virgin. Horsell (Guildford).

The Rev David Kennedy, Tutor at The Queen's College, Birmingnam: to be Rector, Haughton Le Skerne (Durham).

The Rev Jonathan Lawson, Assistant Curate, Sedgefield: to be Assistant Curate, Usworth Team Ministry (Durham). The Rev Kevin McGarahan, Team

Vicar, Madeley Team Ministry (Hereford): to be a Royal Army The Rev Mark Nicholls, Vicar, St

Andrew, Wigan: to be Vicar, St Margaret, Bulawayo, diocese Matabeleland The Rev Stephen Oliver, Rector, Leeds City Team Ministry (Ripon): to be also an Honorary Canon of

Ripon Cathedral. The Rev Christine Owen, Chap-lain to London University and Hon Curate, St Marylebone w

Holy Trinity (London): to be Pre-center and Minor Canon of Worcester Cathedral (Worceste The Rev Bob Redrup, Vicar, Kea (Truro): to be also an Honorary Canon of Truto Cathedral.

Luncheons :

HM Government Field Marshal Sir Peter inge, Chief of the Defence Staff, was the host at a luncheon given yesterday in Admiratly House by the Ministry of Defence in honour of Admiral Antonio Carlos Fuzeta da Ponie, Chief of Defence General Staff, Portugal.

Coal Industry Society
Mr John Battle, MP, was the principal guest and speaker at a luncheon of the Coal Industry Society held yesterday at the Park Lane Hotel. Mr C.E. Sully presided. Mr D.R.T. Waring, president, also spoke.

Forthcoming marriages

Dr A.J. Cairns and Miss S.E. Scarlett

The engagement is announced between Alistair Cairns, Ph. 1 eldest son of the late Mr lan Cairns and of Mrs Cairns, of Cupar, File, and Sarah, daughter of the late Hon John Scarlett, CBE, and of Mis Scarlett, of Wadhurst, Sussex.

The Rev D.A. McClay and Miss H.M. Saund The engagement is announced between David, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Roland McClay, of Laghey, Co Donegal, and Hilary, daughter of the Rev Teddy and Mrs Saunders, of Charley Hertfordshire.

Mr M.B. McHaffic and Miss A.J. Branford

The engagement is announced between Malcolm, son of Mr Michael McHaffle, of West Horsley, Surrey, and the late Mrs Joan McHaffie, and Alison, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs John Bradford of Norwich.

Mr H.M.C. Morley and Miss K.S. Balfour

and Miss A.S. Bahou The engagement is amounced between Harry, elder son of Mr David Morley, of Newmarket, Suffolk, and Mrs Tim Eastwood, of Moreton Pinkney, Northamptonshire, and Kate, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Christopher Ballour, of Win-

chester, Hampshire. Mr J.C. Stratford and Miss FLM. de la Haye

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, elder son of Mr and Mrs J.M. Stratford, of Jersey. Channel Islands, and Heidi, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs L. de la Haye, of Jersey, Channel Islands.

Mr J.A.C. Walter and Miss C.M. Duncan The engagement is announced between John, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Antony Walter, of Jimena de la Frontera. Spain, and Celia, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Angus Duncan, of Emsworth.

University news

Oxford The Eldon Law scholarship for 1996 has been awarded to Andrew Richard Thomas, Balliol College. Merton College To Postmasterships: J E Ratzer,

formerly of Eton College, R.L. Behr, formerly of the City of London School To an Exhibition: Miss E.J.C. Brown, formerly of Westminster School.

Recent grants include:

Recent grants include:
Prof B Sealy, Prof P.L F Hemment,
Prof K G. Stephens. Dr R P Webb:
13,741,929 from the Engineering
and Physical Sciences Research
Council for The University of
Surrey Ion Beam Facility for
Microelectronics".
Prof H G Muller-Steinhagen:
1225,374 from the Engineering and
Physical Sciences Research Council
for Development of low-fouling
lear exchanger surfaces.
Prof M Gradult 2211,072 from the
Engineering and Physical Sciences
Research Council (Realising our
Potential Award) for "Mitigation of
attrition in finid catalytic cracking
units". Prof B G Evans. Mr S P W Jones:

PHF communications for mobile multimedia services."

Dr J Illingworth, Prof J V Kittler: Li48,699 from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council for "Hidden Markov modes for the recognition of handwrinen words, Dr P R Voke, Dr P E Hancock Li48,281 from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council for "Large-eddy simulation of unsteady flow over turbo machines blades."

Throne, 1685.

Queen Elizabeth II acceded to the Throne, 1952.

Seven members of the Manchester United football team were among those killed in an air crash at Munich, 1958.

France and Britain agreed on the building of a Channel tunnel, 1964.

1236,000 from the European Sciences Research Council for Stable anenuation of DHV: for Stab

BMDS: 0171 782 7272 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

FAX: 0171 481 9313

PRIVATE: UI	1 481 4000
But the poor will not always be unheeded, nor the hope of the destinate be always vain. Psaim 9: 18 (REB)	BIRTHS
BIRTHS ADAMSON - On Sunday 4th February, 10 Imogen (née Millon) and James, a son. Robert Douglas. RAMGER - On 28th December 1995 at Warwick, to Elizabeth (née West) and Graham. a daughter. Lucinde Madeleine Clare, a sister for Charles. Olivia. William and Rhonz. William and Rhonz. BEAUMONT - On 3rd February 1996, to Nitchèle and Marr. a beautiful sun. Anthony Albert. BENTLEY - On 1st February. to Andrea (née Moore) and	KIBBLE - On Srd February "The Towers" to Debt and Edward, a beguifed a Edward Alexander Name She Soz. PARRY - On 1st February, Susan and Alexander, beautiful daughter, Ad Alexandra, Salmy - On February 1st Exama (née Musprutt) a Julian, a daughter, Isabeli alater for James a Alexander, VESTEY - On Sth February 1996, at St, Germain- Laye, France, to Victo (née Waddeli) and Robin daughter, Rose Elizab Jean, a sister for Goorgh WAKGLY - On Jamuary St to Sagolite (née Margham) a
Glies, a son. Edward John George, a brother for Alexandra. BUGERT - On January 28th at The Portland Hospital. to Knye and Ross, a beautiful baby boy, Effort Salwyn.	Andrew. a daughter, San Derothy.
BOLTON - On February 1st, to Hazel and Robert, a son, Edward. BRITT - On, 4th February, to Manyaret and Stephen, a son, Henry (Harry) Edward, a hrother for Sarah. BRODALA - On February 2nd 1996, at High Wycombe, to David and Amanda (née Erickson), a beautiful daughter. Kathleen Milica Jane, a pirate playmais and sister for Josef. GAUNTER - On 24th	ADAMSON - Edward, passaway pascerbilly at his ho on 3rd February agad : Private funeral at Putvate funeral at Putvate funeral at Putvate funeral only. Donatic please to The Adams Collection Charity, Hollywood Road, Lond Sw10 9HY. A Memor Service will be annountate, Grevousty missed his family and his frie John.

GAUNTER - On 24th
January, to Georgia and
Cive. a daughter. Abigai
Charlotte Rose, a sister for
H.C.R. Glarry's At-ALEXANDÉR - Peacethly at home on lat February. In his 92nd year. Commander H.C.R. Charry) Alexander. RN 010, beloved husband of Mary, father of Colm and Simon. grandfather of Madeleine. great-uncle and stepfather. Funeral on Friday 9th February. Mortiake Crematorium at 3.50 pm. Family flowers gally. 10 Kmgyon. 74 Rochester Row. SWI. Donations to the Royal Naval Benevolant Society. 1 Flost Street, ECA. DEVERELL - On January 22nd to Sussume and John. a daughter, Flora Sophia, a sister for Courad and

BASKERVILLE - LE Dane ELWES - On 3rd February, to Georgina (née Rapinet) and Senedict, a son, Jasper Simon. BASKERVELE - L.E. Came suddenly at home on February 3rd 1996 aged 74. Requiem Mate to take place on Monday 12th Pebruary at 1230 pm at St Augustins R.C. Church, High Wycombe. No flowers. Donations to Furnishing Trades Benevolent Association. All suquiries tel: (01494) \$29195. GIRSON - On February 1st. to

Comprom MacConnaid.

GRESON - On February 1st. to
Melanie and Piers, a
daughter, Marcha Camille, a
stater for Lucy. Harry and
Theo.
HOGHTON - On January 31st
1996, to Susanna (née
GRIBHRAND and Bruce, a son,
Louis Alexander, a brother
for Oliver.

IOSES - On January 13th at
the Royal Free Hospital, by
Ebbie this Beckerroan) and
Kenth, a daughter. Neassha
Louise, a sister for Nicholas.

CERRY - On January 13th, to
Pipps (née Ward) and
Patrick, 2 son, William
James. for Offver.

JOHES - On January 13th at the Royal Free Hospital. In Debite (the Beckerman) and Kenth. a daughter. Notasha Louise. a sister for Nicholas. ICERTY - On January 13th, to Pipps (née Ward) and Patrick, 2 son, William Icerate.

DEATHS BENNETT - Charles John Lyell OBE, MC, suddenly in Cyprus on 2nd February, dear brother of Ann. former supployee Standard Chartered Bank, also of Devizes, Wilts. Funeral in Cyprus, Donations if desired to RSPB.

Cyprus. Donations if desired to RSPB.

BRITON - Cive Joseph aged 54, deerly loved husbend of Ann. father of Rachel. Thu. Abl and Laura and proud grandfather of Jake. Funeral 1.30 pm Friday 9th February at Robin Hood Cramstorium. Shirtey. No flowers. Donations to The Mental Health Foundation. 37 Morthner Street. London Win S.RJ. GHARLES - Victor Gustave
on January 30th in London.
Loved son of the late Victor
and Elizabeth, dearly loved
brother of Marion, adored
mate of Maurice and Diene.
fondly loved mate of Jensy,
great-uncle of Sheryl, Lynda,
Mark. Kim and Shelley,
great-great-uncle of Catthn.

mark. Aim and Shelley, great-great-mace of Cattlin. Timothy and Scottle (all of New Zealand). A dapper character of the world of London theatre, a gentleman - a lovely man. Sadiy missed. Funeral notice later.

- a lovely man. Sadly missed. Funeral notice later.

CLINTON - David Cecil (Peter), beloved husband of Odette, suddenly on 3rd February 1996. Funeral Service at Croydon Cremetorium on Wednesday 14th February 12 noon. Donations in Beu of Sowers, all cheques payable to Mayday Hospital Hearthest Appeal, of Rowland Bros., 44 High Streat, Parley, CRB 2AA or bit (0121) 660-6847.

CROSS - On February 4th Alexander G. M.A., M.D., F.R.C.S., peacefully in St. Trusta's Home, Wimbledon. Devoted husband of Elecenfather of Diana, father-in-law of Gerald and grandfather of Alson and John, Funeral at Christchurch. Copse Hill. Wimbledon. 11 am Thursday 8th February 1996 followed by private cremation. Fanalty flowers only, Donations to the Fight for Sight, c/o Mears and Cotteril. 161 Menton Hoad, London SW18 SEQ.

DUMSTAM - Jean Campbell (nie Robson) asset 84. on

Cotteriii. 161 Menton Road,
London SW18 SEO.

DUNSTAN - Jean Campbell
(nás Robson) aged 84, on
February 3rd at hume after a
stort filmris. Very dest wife
of the late Sydney, much
loved and loving mothet of
Linda and Heather and
grandmother of Carotine and
Victoria. Funaral Service on
Monday 12th February at
1.45 pm at Putney vale
Crematorium. Stag Lane,
Putney SW15. Thanksgiving
Service at St Mary Magdalen
Church. Trinity Road. SW18
on Monday 12th February at
5 pm. Family flowers only
please. hut donations if
desired to Trinity Hogsics,
Claphan, SW4. Enquiries
and donations of Meers &
Cottetii, 169 Merton Road.
London SW18 5EF. Tel
(0181) 874-7698.

DEATHS EARL - On February 2nd in her 95th year. Honor, widow of Sebestian Earl, daughter of the late Viscount and Lady Maughten, mother of Stephen and of the late Julian, beloved grandmother and great-grandmother. No flowers. But donations in memory to the National Youth Orchestra, Causeway House, Lodge Causeway, Bristol BS16 3kD.

ELLIOT - pamela Violet peacefully at home on Saturday 3rd February 1996. Widow of Hobert. much loved mother and grandmother. Funeral private. Please no Rowers. Date of Thanksgiving Service to be announced later.

FITZPATRICK - John, on February 1st 1996. peacefully in Worthing aged 86. A distinguished services career included the Irish Guards, the Pelestine Police and the 8th Army, also served in Makeya and with the Foreign Office. Beloved Instant of Jane who thed in 1993 and a special individual, much loved by his family and friends. Service at Our Lady of England Priory in Storrington. Sussex on Wednesday 7th February 11.15 am followed by raivate cremation. Frowers and enguires to F.A. Holland & Sm. 10 Steffen Parade. Tarring Road. Worthing, Sussex BN11 48Z. Tel: (01903) 248900.

FREUDENSERG - Elisabeth trise Labovsky) at Pennant Nursing Home. Somerset, wife of the late Konrad Freudenberg, mother of Elizabeth, Matthew, Anna and Veronica. Service at Taunton Deane Cremateraism on Thursday 5th February at 2.30 gm. Donations if desired to Oxfan. Enquiries to E. Wille & Son Ltd.. Funeral Directors. Taunton. lei: (01823) 272183.

MALDANE - On 3rd February 1996 peacefully in Edinburgh, Brodrick Vernon Chinnery, younger brother of the late Alexander Chinnery Haldane of Geneagles, Funeral Service in St Michael and All Saints Church, Brougham Place, Edinburgh, on Friday, 9th February at 2 pm, thereafter private, Family flowers only. There will be no subsequent insurorial service.

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DEATHS

RENYON - du Mello Kenyon, Maier John. M.I.M.C., of Cheltenham, formerty of Newport, Pembrokshire, dad at Gioncessenhire Royal Hospital sped 78 on January 31st 1996 atter a short filmes. Mach loved hisband of the late Marian Kenyon, father of Liz, Jennie and Chris, grandfather of Charlie, Tim. Camilia, Hamsal, Loty, Enma. Tom and Georgha. Funeral at St. Marry's Church, Newport, Pembrokshire on Friday February 9th at 2.30 pm. LAW - Cactiis (née Dowell) aged 85, of Aldwick, Bognor Regis, mother of Sally, grandinother of Sally, grandinother of Sminon and Martin. Died 1st February 1996 in Barnes Hospital. Cremation Putney Vale Cremation Putney Vale Cremation in Bridge 1996 at February 1996 at Patriord, hospital posectfully after a short lineas on 4th February 1996 at Patriord. Belowed wife of the late Bernard Wenthams 01811 783-1790.

MARIN - Bernard William of Bury St Edmunds, died pascefully Belowed wife of the late Bernard Kenthamson of the February 1996 at Patriord, posectfully. Belowed wife of the late Bernard Kenthamson of the February 1996 at Patriord, posectfully. Belowed wife of the late Bernard Kenthamson of the February 1996 at Patriord, posectfully. Belowed wife of the late Bernard Kenthamson of the February 1996 at Patriord, posectfully. Belowed wife of the late Bernard Kenthamson of the February 1996 at Patriord, posectfully. Belowed wife of the late Bernard Kenthamson of the February 1996 at Patriord, posectfully. Belowed wife of the late Bernard Kenthamson of the February 1996 at Patriord, posectfully. Belowed wife of Silventham of the late Service at Sardet Hospital. Manifekasany. dearest mother of Una. Cimitan and John of the Patriol of Patriord, posectfully. Belowed wife of Silventham of Patriord, posectfully. Belowed the facility of the Patriol of the late Service at Sardet Hospital Contact. Chainsoired Survice, tait (01240) 365978.

MARTIN - On 2nd February, For Juli density of Juli de

DEATHS

years. Much loved daughbar of Richard and the late Joanna Martin and stepdaughbar of Sue Martin aister to Judith. Jeremy. Nigel and Heism. Funeral Church of Christ tha Saviour, Ealing Broadway. Tuesday 15th February at 12 noon followed by cremation for family. No flowers please Domations if desired to "The Brilish Kidney Patient Association". Bordon, Hanhs. GUSS 91Z.

MOTRIBON - Lady Rosemany discounting and Toyoning and the loving sister of Sue, Jane and Endiscon hier Toyoning and a dealing the Groot nie Toyoning and St. Mary's Church. Wargrave. Befaultr on Wednesday 7th February at 12 noon. Flowers welcome (Tomakin et al. 12 noon. Flowers wel

DEATHS

RISOE - Vilhelm Scheiderup (RIII), suddenly at home, his wife and daughter with him, on Friday 2nd February 1996 in his 84th year. Beloved husband of Rose, and dearly loved father of Paul and Susao, father-in-law of Clare and grandfather of Theo, Eleanor and Simon. Private funeral to be arranged. "I will lift up ruine eyes unto the hills: from whence cometh my help".

R088 - On February, 5th 1996, peacefully in hospital, Andrew Cairns, aged almost 84. Darring husband of Cécles, father of the lafe Cotin and much loved by Carole and Norman, Charlotts and Lucy, Fumeral Service on February 12th at Randalls Park Crematorium, Lestherhead, at 12.30 pm. Family flowers only and no letters please, but donations if desired to Wolking Community Hospital c/o G. Boutel & Son, 50 High Road, Byflest, Surrey KT14 7CL. Tel: (01932) 348037 for enquiries.

SNATH - Peacefully in his sleep on February 4th aged 86 years. Linton Snatth (Gymacologist) of Jemmond. Newcastle upon Tyne. Dear husband of the late Kay and father of Michael. Judy and 8oc. Funeral Service at West Road Crematorizan, Newcastle, on Friday 9th February at 2 pw. Details of Thanksgiving Service to be announced later. Family flowers only. Denations in lieu to Natural Childbirth Trust or the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council.

STEVERS - Derek Probin died peacefully at home February 4th 1995, aged 76, Late of Paragon Laundry Group, Westpate Motorhouse and North Street Motorhouse and North Street Motorhouse and North Street Motorhouse and Stather and grandfather. Service at Cold Ashton Village Church (pr. Bath) on Monday 12th February 2 pm. No flowers place, donations c/o F.W. Jones & Son. 30 Market Place, Chippenham. SN15 3HP for Cold Ashton Church and the Athrogryposis Group.

STOKES - Derothy Ella Foundam (Dode) are Nash, widow of Richard Cooby Stokes, peacefully on February 1st 1996 in her 90th year. Private cremation. Service of Thunksylving at St Mary's, Caynham on Sanaday 10th February at 12 poon. Family flowers only. Denations to Save The Children, c/o A Houkins and Son. 85 Gravet Hill, Ludlow, Shrepahire SYS 1QU.

DEATHS

THEMEN - Ben died aged 23 on 31st January, 1996, as a result of an accident whilst engaged in zoological research in the Kaiahari Desert. South Africa. A dedicated and enthusiastic conservationist, warm-hearted and out-going Ben died doing the things he lowed most. A celebration of his life will take place on Wednesday 7th February. 1996 at 3 pm, in Penntroha College Chapel, Oxford, No Bowers, Donations to Africa Resources Trust through the family.

TURVILL - John Richard (Dick) aged 71 years on 4th February peacefully after a short filmes. Funeral Service to be held at Yeovil Crematorium on Friday February 9th at 11 am. Memorial Service at Kithrandon Church, Seil. Scotland on Monday April 18th. Domatons to R.N.I.I. c/o Stoodley & Son. Filmeral Directors. Crewkerne, Somarset, tal: (01460) 73229.

WALKER - Madeleine (née
Christle) on February 1st
1996, wife of the late Devid
Paterson Walker, beloved
mother of Pet and Armanda.
Funeral Service at St Mary's
Church, Islington. Upper
Street, London N1. on Priday
9th February at 12 noon.
Flowers of doublious pienne
to Age Concern (stington).
424 St John Street, EC1.

FLATSHARE

WILLIS - Theodore, aged 80. Beloved husband of Catherine, mach loved by his femily and friends. Died 4th February. Meeting for Worship Friends' Meeting House, Church Street, Allon. Hants. 230 pm Friday 9th February. Donations to imperial Cancer Research

ARRANGEMENTS EUSSELL-COSE - The Funeral Service for Trevor at Golders Green Crematortum, will now take place in the West Chapel at 12.30 pm on Wednesday. February 7th, and not in the East Chapel, as previously

FUNERAL

MEMORIAL SERVICES TATCHELL - A Memorial Service for Rodney Tatchell. LVO. FSA. FRIBA. WE be hald at St Giles-in-the-Fields. London WC2. on Tuesday. 20th February 1996, at 12 1000. IN MEMORIAM -

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OBITUARIES

Roth Berghaus, German stage director and choreographer, died from cancer in Berlin on January 25, aged 68. She was born in Dresden on July 2 1927 .--

RUTH BERGHAUS had fiercely held beliefs, many of which were in political line with those prevailing in the German Democratic Républic where she first achieved artistic success. She was a Brechtian through and through and took over the artistic direction of the Berliner Ensemble in 1971, when Brecht's widow Helene Weigel died. But it was as an opera producer that Berghaus achieved most notoriety outside the GDR.

Her stagings were, with very jew exceptions, uncompromising. She took a view of each work that she tackled and that view was highly personal, based on her own experi-ences and credos, sometimes to the point of obscurity. She drove the idea : of "producer's opera", fashionable in the 1980s and beyond, to its ultimate limits. The stage directions of the and a teapot. Don Ottavio sang his composer and his libreitist were not. Act II aria in a snowstorm. The considered important and on occasion were jettisoned altogether. What mattered was the Berghaus vision.

Berghaus productions, often emphasising urban decay and brutality, heavily influenced a new generation of directors who began to tality, heavily influenced a new on the first night but appliauded on generation of directors who began to the second. Berghaus, though, did arrive at opera houses with the not return to the WNO. "concept" of the piece they were about

RUTH BERGHAUS

David Fielding working at the English National Opera probably came under her spell at one time - and revilers in equal measure. She became as accustomed to the boos and outrage of affronted traditionalists as she was to the adulation of those determined to push out opera's frontiers. Her name on a production was to some a call to worship and to others a sharp warming to stay away. Her British debut in 1984, made

with the Welsh National Opera, was characteristic Brian Macmaster, then in charge of the company, was an expert on East European theatre and engaged her for Don Giovanni. He provided a strong cast, with William Shinnell in the title role and Anne Evans as Anna The WNOs music director, Sir Charles Mackerras, conducted and Berghaus provided the scandal. The Times described the set as resembling a wide crazy-pavement of baked mod, on which the cast discovered objects which included socks, shoes production was almost universally condemned, but the WNO stack to its guns and brought it to London later in the year for a short season at the Dominion, where it was again beded

Perhaps she had no need to. Her to stage already parcelled up. Concept began to be spelt with a capital C the Frankfurt Opera, with the help of the conductor and administrator dapital Germanic K. Berghaus col-Michael Gielen. It had begun with a lected disciples — David Alden and production in 1981 of Mozart's Die



Entfuhrung, which stressed the constancy of women and the selfpreening of men: one of Belmonte's arias was flanked by flambeaux and a grand piano. Her peak was almost certainly a Ring which drew all Berghaus devotees to Frankfurt. There was a certain irony in the representative of the still hated GDR ing much feted in one of West

Germany's richest cities.
Ruth Berghaus started by studying choreography at the Palucca Schule in her native Dresden. In her early twenties she saw the Berliner Ensemble in Brecht's Mother Courage and was so impressed that she determined to work for the company. This she did after a spell at the Komische Oper in East Berlin, where the theories of Walter Felsenstein rather than Brecht still reigned.

Berghaus's first success with the Berliner Ensemble was her choreography for the battle scenes in Coriolanus, a production that was later to come to London. She met the composer Paul Dessau, who had spent the war in America, partly working in Hallywood, before returning to Berlin and announcing solidarity with the GDR. Dessau wrote the music for a number of Brecht plays, Berghaus married him in 1954, although he was thirty years her senior, and she started to direct his operas. Dessau's Die Verurteilung des Lukullus was the first Berghaus production to be seen in the West. Dessau died in 1979. Two years

earlier Ruth Berghaus had resigned from the Berliner Ensemble, which was by then far from being the force it once had been, because of resistance to many of the changes she proposed. Much of her operatic work was done at East Berlin's Staatsoper. But in 1984 she shocked the quite staid Munich public with a produc-tion of Rossini's Barber of Seville, which began by filling the stage with a huge female nude and had Rosina making her first appearance peeping out of a nipple. The casting was very respectable — Hermann Prey, Reri Grist - the staging was not.

The Berghaus reputation grew fas and she appeared to have no difficulty in getting exit visas from the GDR. The Paris Opera invited her in 1985 to do Alban Berg's Wozzeck, designed by one of her regular collaborators, the architect Hans Dieter Schaal. She jettisoned Berg's very precise stage directions and opted for an urban iungle. Transvestites filled Berg's country tavern and Wozzeck waded to his death not into a lake but through a sea of waving arms. The early choreographic training and the insistence on meaningful movement never left her, even though the

composer's intentions sometimes did. Berghaus's devotion to her own artistic principles could never be questioned. She was ready to put her head on the block even when everything was running against her. Teresa Stratas, who was scheduled to sing the title role of Alban Berg's Lulu in Brussels under Ruth Berghaus's direction, fell ill on the opening night. Berghaus had another soprano perform offstage while she herself acted the part, making light of the fact that

at sixty she was no femme fatale.

Major houses, although not in
London, continued to take a risk with Berghaus. At the Vienna Festival she and Claudio Abbado resurrected Schubert's unwieldy opera of knightly chivalry, Fierrabras, and against all the odds together they made a success of it. Rolf Liebermann in Hamburg engaged her Tristan and entrusted her with his own piece Freispruch für Medea. Life with Berghaus was never dull. Her view might have been bleak, with perdition often just around the corner, but it was unwavering. She made sure that those who saw a Berghaus production did not forget it.

PROF CYRIL TYLER

Professor Cyril Tyler, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Reading University, 1968-76, died on January 25 aged 85. He was born on January 26, 1911.

CYRIL TYLER will be remem-

bered for four achievements: his skill as Deputy Vice-Chancellor at Reading during the university's period of rapid expansion, and the years of student unrest; his research work, principally into the structure of egg shells — a subject in which he became an acknowledged world authority; his considerable ability as a communicator of ideas; and his cricket, which he played for Gloucestershire for three

Yet he often joked that little of this would have happened had he not been found, at the age of four, playing in a hayloft with a dangerous piece of agricultural machinery. The response of his father, a Yorkshire miner, and his mother, a "shoddy" millworker, was to send him to school nearly two years early, if only to keep him out of further mischief.

seasons before the war.

From the start he excelled both academically and on the sports field. He went on to Ossett Grammar School and took a first in agricultural chemistry at Leeds University. following it with a PhD. At the same time he made his name as a bowler of some promise in the West Riding Heavy Woollen District League.

His move south in 1936, to a post at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, like his early schooling, had an almost accidental air to it. Presenting his impeccable academic achievements to his interviewers, he found them more interested in his cricketing

talents. He was offered the job with more or less unlimited time off to play — on condition that he always wore the college blazer. For three summers, before

war broke out, he played at least one three-day game a week for the county, often in the company of some of the great names of the era, such as Hammond, Goddard and Emmett. He attributed much of his success on the field to the fact that he was a better soil scientist than any of the other bowlers. Eventually the question was asked in a newspaper headline: "Is Tyler The Man For England?" "Alas the answer was 'No'," he used to say,

He moved to Reading Univassistant lecturer in the agri- by his second wife, Rita.

asked!"

"but at least the question was

cultural chemistry ment, and began serious ascent of the academic ladder. He wrote three books — one of which, Organic Chemistry For Students Of Agriculture, has stood the test of time and dozens of papers on calcium metabolism in poultry and the structure of egg shells. He also became an expert on German agricultural history, translating many papers into English, including a whole book of Wilhelm von Nathusius. He became a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry and was awarded a

DSc from Leeds University.

He was appointed professor at Reading in 1947, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture in 1959 and Deputy Vice-Chancellor in 1968. His department changed its title three times during his leadership, first to physiological chemistry, then to physiology and biochemistry -- leading a fellow academic to remark of him that he had not so much held a chair, more

It was very much his sense of humour which he brought to the task of helping to shepherd the university through its difficult period of transition in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Not all his colleagues always agreed with him; nevertheless, the vast majority paid tribute to his steadying influence during this period, and to his never having shirked the difficult

and the disagreeable. However, his first love was teaching. A number of prominent academics in the field drew their early inspiration from his lectures. Sometimes they responded to his humour with their own. On one occasion he lectured, without appearing to notice, to 60 students and a horse, only noting afterwards that the horse seemed more interested than the students.

His first wife, Myra, died in 197L He is survived by their ersity in 1939, as a temporary two sons and a daughter and

COLONEL KAJ BIRKSTED



parade to receive decorations in the spring of 1944

Colonel Kaj Birksted, OBE, DSO, DFC, Danish Second World War fighter ace, died in ion on January 21 aged 80. He was born on March 2, 1915.

ALTHOUGH a Dane (and the only Danish pilot to become a wartime ace, ie, to destroy more than five enemy aircraft) Kaj Birksted commanded one of the RAF's two Norwegian squadrons and subsequently led the Norwegian Wing. From mid-1941 onwards he was involved almost continuously in combat.

He took part in the early sweeps through which Fighter Command tried to gain control of the air over occupied France after the Battle of Britain. He had a leading role in repelling German raids on Thames Estuary installations in 1943. During his period as CO of No 132 (Norwegian) Wing he made it for a time the top-scoring unit in the RAF. And when finally rested from operations in the spring of 1944, he made an important contribution to the planning of fighter cover for the D-Day landings, on the planning staff of 11 Group.

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of either one of the parties concerned or a parter, set and home telephone number and address.

His men esteemed him not only for his qualities as a fighter leader, but for his acuity in dealing with any problem relating to flying personnel, and for his organising ability and quickness to solve any difficulty.

Kaj Birksted was born in

Boston, Massachuseus, where his father was working at the time. But at a young age he moved back to Denmark with his parents. In 1938 he graduated as a pilot officer in the Royal Danish Navy. On April 9, 1940, the day Denmark was occupied by the Germans, he was duty officer at the Royal Danish Naval Air Station at Copenhagen. A week later, he escaped to Sweden in a rowing boat and from there he went all the way up to North Norway to join Norwegian and British forces. But he arrived there only to find that the futile campaign against the Germans was coming to its end, and early in May 1940

in the destroyer Wolverine. Birksted joined the Royal Norwegian Air Force and spent about six months at the "Little Norway" training camp in Ontario Province, Canada. Early in 1941 he was transferred to England where he was posted to 43 "Fighting Cock" Squadron RAF, flying Hurricanes on daytime sorties and night intruder operations

he was evacuated to England

over enemy-held territory. When, in July 1941, the Royal Norwegian Air Force established its first fighter squadron, No 331 operating Spitfires, Birksted was transferred to it. His knowledge of air fighting and tactics, combined with his quick thinking and sound judgment soon ensured that, notwithstanding that he was neither Norwegian nor British, he was promoted squadron leader and commanded the squadron from August 1942 until

April 1943. He led it in more than sixty offensive operations, and when it igined with Norway's second squadron, No 332, to form the Norwegian Wing, he led the combined unit. During this period, his squadron destroyed at least 17 enemy aircraft and damaged 23

He then spent two months as an instructor at the Fighter Leaders' School where his energetic input made him to a considerable extent responsible for its success. Birksted returned to North Weald in July 1943, and in August he was appointed Wing Com-

more.

mander Flying. From that point the wing destroyed more than 39 enemy aircraft for the loss of only four pilots. This achievement was largely at-tributable to Birksted's leadership in the air and to his conscientious work and sound organisation on the ground.

After having flown some 500 operational hours in command of the Norwegian Squadron and the Norwegian Spitfire Wing, he was posted to HQ No 11 Group in March 1944. He was made adviser on day operations to the Air Officer Commanding and responsible for planning the group's fighter cover and for escorts for all major air operations. This included the intensive

fighter operations in support of the Normandy invasion, the battle for Arnhem, and the day-to-day cover of ground operations.

Birksted ended his war with ten kills credited to him, and might well have had more. In addition to his DSO and DFC for his skill and leadership in the air, and his OBE for his contribution to planning, he was also invested with Norway's Order of St Olav. With the war over, he re-

turned to Denmark and became special adviser to the Minister of Defence on the rebuilding of Danish military aviation. When the Royal Danish Air Force was established in 1950, he was promoted lieutenant-colonel and, two days later, colonel and Chief of Staff of the Air Force. However, in spite of the leadership he had demonstrated during the war, he ran into difficulties in his relations with the higher command of the postwar

He was not given the top post of Chief of the Air Force (carrying with it general's rank) as he had hoped and for which his record appeared eminently to fit him. In 1954, therefore, he took up a civilian post at Nato, first in Paris and later in Brussels. On retirement he settled in England.

Birksted will be remembered as a fine pilot, a crack shot, a resourceful tactician and a courageous wing leader. He was a first-class officer who, by his example, was an inspiration to all with whom he came into contact, not only in the RAF during the war, but also in the difficult build-up phase of the postwar Royal Danish Air Force.

He married, in 1945, Sonja Irgens, and is survived by her and by their son.

BERNARD JONES

Bernard Jones. horticulturist died on January 25 aged 89. He was born on August 4.

ONE of the great sweet pea exhibitors of his day, Bernard Jones was an authority on the cultivation and hybridisation of the "queen of annuals". Although a pharmacist by profession, it was sweet peas, with their delightful fragrance and their pastel flowers, which were his passion. In his book The Complete Guide to Sweet Peas he wrote: "I do sincerely believe that this most absorbing of pursuits can be a great aid to happiness in life

Bernard Rees Jones began his career as a seaman, venturing as far as Iceland and Egypt in order to finance his studies in pharmacy. He qualified in 1930, and spent the rest of his career as a hospital pharmacist, first in London and later in Warwick. For thirty years he lectured to nursing students at Coventry Technical College.

for those who follow it."

It was after his move to Warwick, in 1943, that he began seriously to cultivate the sweet pea. Every autumn, seeds were sown in pots, then nurtured in cold frames before

being planted out in beds. In late May and June they flowered in a frilled mass from which specimens were cut to make up vases for the show bench or kept for hybridisation and trial.

Jones worked on improving the modern Spencer sweet peas, which were vigorous plants with large blooms, but which lacked the perfume of older varieties. One year his experiments included a sowing of stock grown from the original Cupani purple scent-ed variety, introduced to Middlesex in 1699.

Between 1953 and 1979 Jones won the National Sweet Pea Society's Clay Cup nine times. He also bred several new varieties, including an orange cerise bloom Alice Hardwicke" - named after his mother - "Cream Beauty" and the frilled lavender Clay Cup winner "Jack Davis". For many years Jones lectured and wrote the National Sweet Pea Society cultural bulletins. Occasionally he made radio broadcasts with Percy Throw-er. He also served as a member of the joint trials committee of the Royal Horticultural Society.

He is survived by his wife

Nora, whom he married in 1929, and by their two sons.

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FLOOD AND LOSS OF LIFE IN THE

NORTH OF ENGLAND. . In the neighbourhood of Manches rivers were so much swollen by the rain that many of them overflowed their banks, submerging all the low grounds in the neighbourhood. At Wallness, on the north west side of Manchester, the left bank of the Irwell was overflowed, and a great portion of the Peel Park laid under water. A large portion of Lower Broughton was also submerged, the ground in some places being covered to a depth of 9 feet. Two rows of houses at Broughton-view, between Broughton-lane and the river Irwell, seemed, at 4 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, in imminent danger of destruction. The flood had cut off all the approaches to these houses, and a strong wind which was blowing at the time drove the water against the walls with such force that Mr. Hacking, the proprietor, expressed a fear that the buildings would be washed down during the night, having been erected under contract, in a not very substantial manner. Mr. Beswick, the chief superintendent of the Manchester detective police, who resides in the neighbourhood, exerted himself for the assiscance of the inhabitants, who were in the greatest alarm and consternation. He despectively some officers for a boat, in order that

ON THIS DAY

February 6, 1852

The bursting of the Holme reservoir killed more than 90 people and devastated the countryside.

those who were afraid of remaining in the houses might be removed to a place of safety. ANOTHER ACCOUNT. From the succession of rainy weather, which

has continued with slight intervals for the last five or six days, all the watercourses, streamlets, and rivers in Yorkshire have been filled with water, and many of them have overflowed their boundaries, in several in-stances doing injury to the surrounding property. One truly awful calamity has occurred, in which 60 or more human beings have lost their lives. A large reservoir of water, containing many thousand gallons, known as

Holme, a few miles from Huddersfield, became over-charged, and burst about I o'clock yesterday (Thursday) morning, the flood carrying destruction and death in its course. The noise made by the bursting of the bounds of the reservoir was very loud, and the roar of the water in its destructive career down the sides of the hills and through the valley was tremendous. The reservoir was used for supplying several of the large woollen mills. and also, we believe, some of the household dwellings in the neighbourhood with water; and in the valley were some extensive woollen manufactories and the cottages of many of the workpeople. In its mad career the water inundated one of these manufactories and upwards of 20 dwellings, overwhelming, as it were, by one fell swoop, not only the buildings, but the inhabitants, nearly all of whom were asleep in their beds, in one fearful doom. Altogether, the number of persons drowned is said to be 60 or upwards. Many of the bodies, as well as the furniture of the houses and other articles, were carried a considerable distance— -some into the Holme, and thence into the Calder. The writer of this heard that the body of a woman, with a child in her arms, who had lost her life by this melancholy casualty, was found in the latter river, several miles from the scene of the catastrophe . . .

ITF manager of the month offers new Ireland manager a helping hand

Brennan succeeds with ruthless selection policy

The celebrations in Bel-fast continued long into Tuesday night after a momentous day for Irish foothall management. Just as the news of Mick McCarthy's appointment as the new Ireland manager had raised the spirits of the Irish faithful, so Michael Brennan discovered he was the Interactive Team Football manager of the month. He was £500 the richer and planning on raising a few spirits of his own.

Mr Brennan's team, Cliftonville FC — named after an Irish League side — gained 147 points in January to take the prize in a high-scoring month. The news of this achievement took Mr Brennan by surprise. Initially he had misread the rules and thought that only matches involving two oppos-ing Premiership clubs counted towards the ITF points total.

The philosophy behind his tam selection owes something to McCarthy. 'I heard Mick McCarthy quoting Alex Ferguson today. He said 'if I played a team of people I liked. would win nothing. That's how I select the team. These are not my favourite players. they are just people I know will do the job for me. You've got to be ruthless."

Mr Brennan has the full list of fixtures for the season and his aim is to play for the monthly manager's prize. Plot-ting the travels of every Premiership club for the next four weeks, he aims to make maximum use of the information month by month.

At the moment his team consists of Walker (Tottenham Hotspur), Wright (Aston Villa), Pearce (Nottingham Forest), Ruddock (Liverpool). Mabbutt (Tottenham Hot-spur), Curcic (Bolton Wander-ers). Ebbrell (Everton). Newton (Chelsea), Draper (Aston Villa). Ferdinand (Newcastle United), Stuart (Everion). Redknapp (West

Ham: manager). "I was fortunate when I brought in Stuart and Pearce," Mr Brennan said. "The first game Pearce kept a clean sheet







and scored a goal to win seven points and Stuart has scored every game since. And Stuart only cost £2 million."

As McCarthy takes over the reins from Jack Charlton, Mr Brennan is willing to lend his support. "He can drop me a line any time if he wants any advice." he said

If your team could be doing better, with your players lack-ing form and fitness, or per-haps the luck of the Irish, you can move into the transfer market to improve your fortunes. ITF has a transfer system that allows you to change up to two players each

Which player you want to

THE WEEK'S TRANSFERS IN ITE				
IN				
Plaver	Club	Value		
M Óakes	Aston Villa	20.5m		
T Challes	OPR .	£1.0m		
M Frontzeck	Man City	£1.5m		
S Bac	West Ham	£1 5cm		
M Brazier	QPR .	£0.75m		
Dani	West Harn	£2.5m		
OUT				
Player	Club	Value		
N Spink	Aston Villa	£1 0m		
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him with is up to you, although you must replace the outgoing player with one from the same category (ie, a full back with a full back) and keep within your £35 million

budget.
The ITF transfer system also allows you to adjust your team actually transferred out of the FA Carling Premiership. He would then no longer be eligible for ITF and would have to be replaced. Any other overseas or Endsleigh Insurance League players who move into the Premiership during the season will become available for transfer.

You can make transfers only by telephone. Using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone), call the 0891 333 331 line during the times given. Calls will be charged at 39 pence per minute cheap rate, 49 pence per minute at other times. If you are calling from Ireland, you must call 004 499 020 0631 and you will be charged at 58 pence per minute at all times.

When making a transfer. you must ensure that the team value still falls within your £35 million budget and does not contain more than two individuals from the same club.

If you are lagging behind the leading team selectors, the transfer system will be an appealing option to you in the chase for the £50,000 prize or the monthly £500 prizes.

With ITF, not only are you pitting your selectorial skills against other readers of The Times, you are also matching your wits against those in the know. With the support of the Professional Footballers' Association, Premiership players have entered sides of their own, and Steve Morgan, of Coventry City, gives his selection on the opposite page. Like him, you may spend £6 million on Teddy Sheringham but will he do better than cheaper alternatives?

All matches in the Premiership and those in the FA Cup involving Premiership clubs manager win and lose you points. With Gohils Gods 65 setting the pace, is it time for you to delve into the transfer

□ All transfer queries regarding Interactive Team Football should be directed to 0171-757 7016. All other inquiries can be made on

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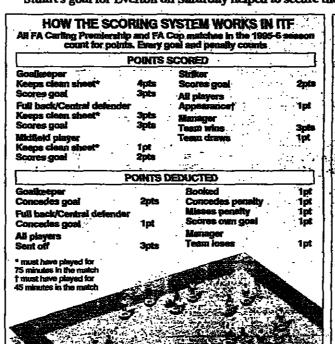
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Stuart's goal for Everton on Saturday helped to secure the monthly prize of £500 for Cliftonville FC in the Interactive Team Football game

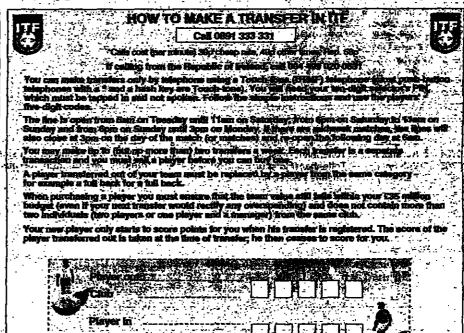


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THE LEADING 250 SELECTORS IN Pts 464 458 450 450 (Mr B Gohil) (K James) (M L Jones) Jones Boys Str (Mr B Bear) (S Brewer) (EJ Kisby) 423 419 418 Klaspurs Five (Mr D Conroy) (Mr A Nadison) Sharon's Buds 415 414 Dwayns Orfbblen (A J Philox) 412 411 (G Shand) (S Brewer) 411 410 (S Lazarids (J Buckle) (K Booth) Narren Wizarda 409 409 407 407 Snort And Stubb (Mr R Layton (H Brasher) Laytens Llons Jones Boys Four (L. M. Janes 406 405 Phsyco And Si 404 403 403 403 401 Nirvana FC Mr J Dono Nobby One (A Brown) (P Sutton) (S Brewer) (Mr P Giles) Steves Lions 7 Fergies Fury (P Simpson) (Mr G Banks) 401 398 398 398 398 397 397 396 396 395 395 394 393 392 392 392 (Mr P Johos (C Woodward) The Likely Lada (G Peddar) Rescue City (K Booth) (M Persich) (Mr P Johnson) (Mr P J Davies) Partick Thistle Burnerell United (C Nicol) (R Bantsam) (B Ghuman) Bal's Team KP Fantasy Team 4 (Kr Patel) (M Parish) (Ms A P Jacobucci) (N Persich) 392 391 391 390 Razor's Raiders (R A Knowle (B Evans) (T Burns) (N Webb) (A Kent) 390 390 390 390 389 389 Burnzy's Babes The Mind Boogle (P Parke) (K Booth) Carling Xi 389 388 (J Sanderson) escue City 2 (P Bradley) Real Madres FC 2nd 389 387 (P Turner) Turners Eamers Twightight United No Fear Utd (P C Dilworth) (G Seunders) 387 387 387 386 386 386 386 385 N A Woodroffel (Mas E L Arrowsmi ngton Longsho (S O'Toole) S Express FC (Mr J R Flee

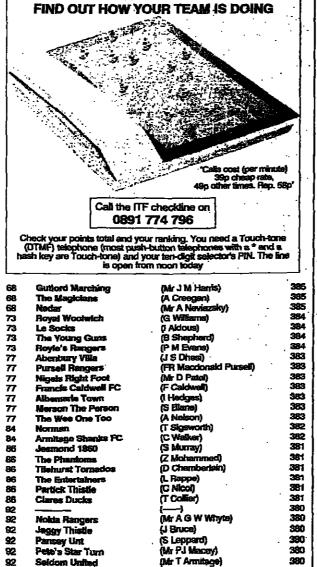
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Only Can Saver	(M McKeown)
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Avenue Dunelmian Uni	(K D Ballour)
Good Times United Premier Alistans	(Mr T Stableton) (D Middleton)
Gutto Nero FC	(É Scaletta)
Journeymen	(A Jordan)
Kisspus Two	(EJ Klaby)
Tonya Ali Sters Mighty Reds	(A Boyland) (I Lewis)
Check Your Head Unit	(Mark Adamso
Paron United · · · · · -	·· (Mr A Hewitt)
	(N Thompson)
Aston Thrillers its A Mugs Game	(N Patel) (K Booth)
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The Sackers	(G Langley)
Long Drive KBT Utd	(I Parker) (R Patterson)
Nippers	(K Hughes)
God Squad	(C Hubbard)
Faye Wanderers Wylde Green Town	(Mr R Vaugher (M Riggins)
Boogie Meisters	(B Robinson)
The Mighty Dunston	(Dr Hall)
J K's Dolphins	(J F Kitchen)
Reggle's Reds Inter Adaglo	(Mr J Bridge)
Ars Alsorans	(S Slade) (A Hancock)
Form Wham	(Mr D Warner)
Million Town	(Mr RW Fitsell)
Sarrys Army	(JP Barry)
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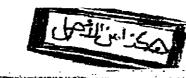
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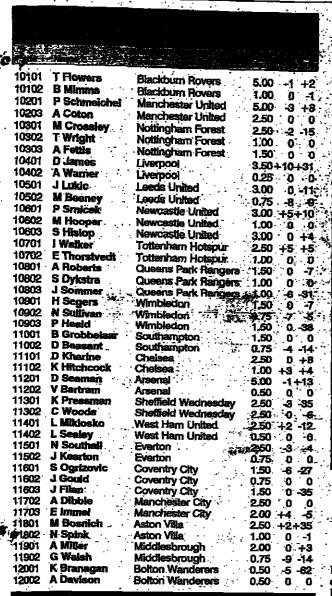
(Mr. J. Parkinson)

(S Smith)

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The players' weekly and overall scores and their values if you are considering the transfer option





20602 M Hottiger 3.00 0 0 20603 W Barton 20701 D Austin ... 1,50 +3 +6 20702 J Edinburgh 1.50 +4+29 2.50 +4+13 200 0 -7 20801 D Bardsley 20802 R Brevett 20803 N Zelic 20902 G Elkins 20903 K Cunningham 30904 R Joseph 1.50 -- 1+14 21001 J Dodd Southampton 1.00 -1 +9. 21003 S Charlton Southampton 1.50 +4+12 1.50 0 +3 0.50 0+15 21104 A Myers 1.50 +4 +7 2.50 +4+21 21106 D Petrescu 3.00 0+30 3.00 0+27 21201 L Dbcon 21202 N Winterburn Arsenal 1.50. 0 0 21203 S Morrow 2.50 -1 -5 2.50 -1 -9 21302 | Nolan Sheffield Wednesday 21303 P Atherton Sheffield Wednesday 21304 D Stefanovic Sheffield Wednesday West Ham United 3.50 +3 +5 21401 J Dicks West Ham United 3.00 0 12 21402 T Breacker 0.75 +3 +3 West Ham United 21403 K Brown 0.75 0 +9 31105 M D 2.50 0+10 31201 T Ac West Ham United. 21404 K Rowland 21501 G Ablett Everton 2.50 0 +4 31202 S B 1.50 -1 +9 31203 M K 21502 E Barrett 21503 M Jackson 0.50 0 -2 1.50 0 0 1.00 -3 -6 21504 P Holmes 21601 D Burrows Coventry City Coventry City 21602 A Pickering 0.75 0 0 Covertry City 21603 S Morgan 0.75 -3 -22 Coventry City Manchester City Manchester City 21604 M Hall 1.50 0 -1 21702 R Edghill 0.75 0 -1 21704 J Foster Aston Villa 2.50 +3+41 21801 'G Charles Aston Villa 4.50 +4 +7 21802 S Staumton 2.50 +6+46 Aston Villa 21803 A Wright 0.50 0 0 0.50 0 0 0.75 -4 -7 1.00 -4+17 0.75 5+18 Aston Villa 21804 P King 21805 B Small Middlesbrough 21901 C Blackmore Middlesbrough 21902 N Cox 2903 C Morris 21904 C Fleming 22001 G Bergsso 22002 S Green 22003 J Philips Middlesbrough 0.75 -5+18 31704 KS) 0.50 0.6 31801 UE 0.50 -2-12 31802 PM Middlesbrough Bolton Wanderers 0.25 +1 -8 **Boiton Wanderers** 0.75 -2 -16 0.75 0 -6 **Bolton Wanderers** 22004 A Todd **Bolton Wanderers** 0.50 0 +1 31903 PW **Bolton Wanderers** -22005 S McAnespie

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Manchester United	4.50 0+1
Manchester United	1.50 0
Nottingham Forest	3.50 0+2
Nottingham Forest	3.00 -1 +1
Liverpool	3.00 +8+2
Liverpool	3.50 +4+3
	3.50 +8+1
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Newcastle Linited	3.00 +4+2
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Morgan seeks value for money in the selection of his side and sees £10 million for Alan Shearer as prohibitive

Morgan's value verdict

FROM the start I decided to ignore the expensive players and go for the people I knew and had played against and who were a bit cheaper. Looking at it now I think I have got some real bargains in my

When you have only £35 million to spend it is easy to go over the limit. Every player nicked means you have to see what is left in the kitty and work out how you are going to make up the rest of the team with what is left. Some of the prices are huge - Shearer costs 110 million but I do not think that it is the expensive players who are necessarily going to do a good job for you week in, week out. All my midfield men are steady

players. They may not be been piling up loads of points every time they play, but they have been getting enough to get me to tenth place in the league. I picked them to do a job and so far they have been doing that for me.
My star players, if you like, are Jamie
Redknapp and Teddy Sheringham. You

Sheringham, too, has real class and is At first, I wanted to have Andy Cole in my side. Before the season started I was finiting about him because of his reputation as a goalscorer at Newcastle United. But I thought I would save a little

0.75 0 0

can see Redknapp is a class player and he

is still young, so he has a great future.

Steve Morgan, a Coventry City full back, talks

about his ITF selection

money and go for Sheringham instead and now I would never change my mind. At Newcastle, Cole had the wingers whipping in balls to him all the time and it seemed easy for him. You only have to look at the number of goals Les Ferdinand has scored since he has been at Newcastle to see what a difference that sort of service makes. At Old Trafford it is a bit different, but I think Cole is settling in there and at least he is sticking at it. I think he will have a good season next

<u> </u>			·
Goalkeeper.	D James	(Liverpool)	23
Full backs:	S Clerke	(Chelsee)	£1.5
	D Invin	(Man Utd)	£4.
Centre backs	: C Patmer 💉	(Leeds)	£31
	D Unsworth	(Everton)	22.
Midfieldera:	A Impey	(QPR)	21.
••	J Redkhapp	(Liverpool)	£21
	R Keana	(Man Lhd)	52.
	D Batty	(Blackburn)	£1.3
Strikers:	M Bright	(Shelf Wed)	. 22
	E Sheringham	(Tottenham)	26.0
Manager,	R Ationson	(Coventry)	£1.

If the money did not matter, I would definitely have Ferdinand in my side, but he is not cheap. Another player I did not pick because he was so expensive was Steve McManaman. I think he and Ryan Giggs are the two hardest players to play against. They are tricky players, men who can change a game for their teams and can be a direct threat on goal or set things up for other people. You are never quite sure what they are going to do next.

The midfield men I did go for were Roy Keane and David Batty. I have

England schoolboys and under-19s together. He is always steady and consistent and when I saw how cheap he was, he was straight in the side.

Mark Bright was another bargain. Strikers do not come cheap, but he was only £2.5 million and yet he always pops up and scores goals. He is in double

known Batty for years since we played

easy choice for Dred Select. The team name comes from my nickname. When I was at Plymouth I used to have my hair permed on top and shaved at the sides. It looked a bit like dreadlocks. So when the lads saw me they called me Dred straight away and that is what I have answered to for years.

I have been out all season with an Achilles injury and I am only just back in

		Teen	2m We Ov
			
41405	l Bishop	West Ham United West Ham United	1.50 +3+32
41406	D Gordon R Sister	West Ham United	1.00 '0 0
41409 41410	r siewer S Lazzerides	West Ham United	1.00 +4+20 1.00 0 +2
41411	M Hughes	West Ham United	2.00 +3+24
41412	n nugnes D Williamson	West Ham United	1.00 +2+12
41501		Everton	5.00 +1+14
41502	J Ebbrell	Evertor.	1.50 0+25
41503	A Limpar	Everton	2.50 0+24
41504	B Horne	Everton	1.50 +3+19
41505	V Samways	Everton	1.50 0 +5
41508	J Paridoson	Everton	1.00 +1+29
41508	A Grant	Everton	0.50 0 +2
	· A Kanchelskis	Everton	6.00 +1+41
41601	P Cook	Coventry City	2.00 0 +2
41802	K Richardson	Coventry City	1.50 +2+19
41803	G Strechan	Coventry City	1.50 0 +2
41607	P Telfer	Coventry City	1.50 +2+29
41608	M Isaias	Coventry City	3.00 0 +9
41609	C Batista	Coventry City	1.00 •0 0
41610	J Salako	Coventry City	2.50 +2+33
41701	G Filteroft	Manchester City	2.50 +2+18
41702	P Beagrie	Manchester City	3.00 0 +3
41703		Manchester City	1.50 +3+30
41704	l Brightwell	Manchester City	1.50 0+15
41706	N Summerbee	Manchester City	1.50 +3+32 1.50 +2+36
41707	G Kinkladze	Manchester City	1,50 +2+36 1,50 +5 +7
41708 41801	N Clough A Townsend	Manchester City Aston Villa	2.00 +3+25
41802	í Taylor	Aston Villa	- 2.00 +2+29
41803	G Southgate	Aston Villa	2.00 +3+35
41805	F Carr	Aston Villa	0.50 0 0
41806	M Draper	Aston Villa	2.50 +3+41
41901	C Hignett	Middlesbrough	1,00 +1+26
41902	A Moore	Middlesbrough	2.00 0 0
41903	J Moreno	Middlesbrough	1.00 0 +2
41904	R Mustoe	Middlesbrough	0.75 0+14
41905	J Pollock	Middlesbrough	2.00 0+24
41906	B Robson	Middlesbrough	1.50 0 +2
41907	Juninho	Middlesbrough	5.00 0+16
42002	D Lee	Bolton Wanderers	
42003	A Thompson	Bolton Wanderers	
42004	R Sneekes	Botton Wanderers	
42007	W Burnett	Bolton Wanderers	
42008 42009	S Sellars S Curcic	Bolton Wanderers Bolton Wanderers	1.50 +1+14
42009	2 CHICIC	DOIGOU MAUGIBLE	1,50 +1+14

8 - 4 2 - 4	No.	Han	Pla
50101		Blackburn Rovers	10.00 +6+74
50102	C Sutton	Blackburn Rovers	7.00 0 +7
50103 50104		Blackburn Rovers Blackburn Rovers	2.00 0+21 2.50 +1 +8
50105	N Goodm'dsso	n Blackburn Rovers	2.00 0 0
50201 50202	E Cantona A Cole	Manchester United Manchester United	7.50 +5+37 7.00 +3+40
50203		Manchester United	3.00 0+16 2.50 0+30
50204 50301	B Roy	Manchester United Nottingham Forest	2.50 0+30 6.00 +3+27
50302 50303	K Campbell J Lee	Nottingham Forest Nottingham Forest	2.50 +4+22 1.50 0+25
50305	A Silenzi	Nottingham Forest	3.50 +2 +3
50401 50402	R Fowler S Collymore	Liverpool Liverpool	8.00 +4+67 7.50 +4+38
50403	i Rush	Liverpool	3.00 0+19
50501 50502	A Yeboah B Deane	Leeds United Leeds United	7.50 0+43 2.50 +1+23
50503		Leeds United	1.50 0 +2 5.00 +1+16
50506 50601		Leeds United Newcastie United	8.00 +3+64
50602 50603		Newcastle United Newcastle United	5.00 +1+33 2.50 0 +7
50804		Newcastle United	0.50 0 0
50605 50701		Newcastle United Tottenham Hotspur	0.50 0 0 6.00 +1+60
50702	C Armstrong	Tottenham Hotspur	4.00 +1+43
50704 50801	<i>P. Rosenthal</i> K.Gallen	Tottenham Hotspur Queens Park Rangers	1.50 0+26 4.50 0+15
50802	B Alien	Queens Park Rangers	1.50 +1 +5
50803 50805	D Dichlo M Hateley	Queens Park Rangers Queens Park Rangers	1.50 -3+19 2.00 +2+10
50901	D Holdsworth	Wimbledon	4.00 +1+31
50902 50903	J Goodman M Harford	Wimbledon Wimbledon	1.50 0+14 1.00 0+10
50904	G Blissett	Wimbledon	0.75 0 0
50905 50906	A Clarke E Ekoku	<i>Wimbledon</i> Wimbledon	0.75 +1 +8 2.50 0+22
50907	J Euell	Wimbledon	1.50 +2 +2 8.00 +1+20
51001 51002	M Le Tissier N Shipperley	Southampton Southampton	2.50 +4+38
51003 51004	G Watson C Maskell	Southampton Southampton	2.00 +4+19 0.75 0 0
51101	M Hughes	Chelsea	4.00 0+22
51102 51103	M Stein J Spencer	Chelsea Chelsea	2.50 0 +6 2.50 +3+27
51104	P Furlong	Chelsea	2.50 +5+14
51201 51202	l Wright D Bergkamp	Arsenal Arsenal	7.50 0+39 7.50 +3+33
51203	J Hartson	Arsenal	4.00 0 +9
51204 51206		Arsenal Arsenal	1.50 0 0 0.75 0 +4
51301	D Hirst	Sheffield Wednesday	4.00 0+37 2.50 0+27
51302 51303		Sheffield Wednesday Sheffield Wednesday	1.50 0+20
51304 51305	O Donaldson M Degryse	Sheffield Wednesday Sheffield Wednesday	0.50 0 +3 3.00 +1+27
51306	D Kovacevic	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00 +1 +4
51401 51403	T Cottee M Boogers	West Ham United West Ham United	4.50 +3+34 2.00 0 -3
51404	l Dowle	West Ham United	0.75 +4+27
51501 51502	D Ferguson D Amokachi	Everton Everton	6.00 +1+14 2.00 0+22
51503	P Rideout	Everton	3.00 0+28 2.00 +3+40
51504 51601	G Strart D Dublin	Everton Coventry City	4.50 +4+44
51602 51605		Coventry City Coventry City	4.00 0+20 1.00 0 +3
51606	N Whelan	Coventry City	1.50 +6+20
51701 51702	U Rosier N Quinn	Manchester City Manchester City	5.50 +3+33 4.00 +1+24
51705 51706	G Creaney	Manchester City Manchester City	2.50 0+11 2.50 0+1
51801	S Milosevic	Aston Villa	4.00 +2+40
51803 51804	D Yorke T Johnson	Aston Villa Aston Villa	3.00 +6+45 2.50 +1+23
51901	J Fjortoft	Middlesbrough	5.00 +1+25
51902 51903	J Hendrie P Wilkinson	Middlesbrough Middlesbrough	1.50 0 +6 1.00 0 +2
51904	N Barmby	Middlesbrough	4.00 +1+33
52001 52003	J McGinlay M Paatelainen	Bolton Wanderers Bolton Wanderers	3.00 0+30 0.75 0 +7
52004	F De Freitas	Bolton Wanderers	0.75 0+18
52005	N Blake	Bolton Wanderers	2.50 +1 +3

52005	N Blake	Bolton Wanderers	2.50	+1 +3
				-
Code	Name .	Texas	200	Pis Wk Ov
60101	R Harford	Blackburn Rovers	5.00	+3+33
60201	A Ferguson	Manchester United	4.00	+3+50
60301	F Clark	Nottingham Forest	3.00	+2+39
60401	R Evans	Liverpool	4,00	+4+44
60501	H Wilkinson	Leeds United	3.00	-2+28
60601	K Keegan	Newcastle United	4.00	+3+54
60701	G Francis	Tottenham Hotspur	3.00	+1+42
60801	R Wilkins	Queens Park Rangers	1.00	-2 +3
60901	J Kinnear	Wimbledon	1.00	-1+15
61001	D Merrington	Southampton	1,50	+2+18
61101	G Hoddle	Chelsea	2.50	+6+40
61201	B Rioch	Arsenal	3.50	+1+31
61301	D Pleat	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	-1+15
61401	H Redknapp	West Ham United	1.00	+6+21
61501	J Royle	Everton	2,00	+1+34
61601	R Atkinson	Coventry City	1,50	0+12
61701	A Bali	Manchester City	1,50	+4+15
61801	B Little	Aston Villa	2.50	+2+42
61901	B Robson	Middlesbrough	1,00	-1+26
62002	C Todd	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	-1 +1

0+18

3.00 +1+19

1.50

2.00

Sheffield Wednesday

West Ham United

West Ham United

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·-				70LT = 34					Pts Vik De
						200	4 A A		
	30705° 30801	J Cundy D Maddix	Tottenham Hotspur Queens Park Rangers	0.50 1.50	0 0 -3 -11	40401 40402	S McManaman J Redknapo	Liverpool Liverpool	6.50 +4+46 2.50 0+21
٠	30802	S Yates	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	-2 -8	40403	J Barnes	Liverpool	3.00 +4+39
· ::::	30803	A McDoneld	Queens Park Rangers	2.00	-4 0	40404	P Stewart	Liverpool	1.50 0 0
Ç.		K Ready	Queens Park Rangers	0.75	0 -6 -3 -3	40405	M Thomas	Liverpool	1.50 +4+13
٠.		A Reeves	Wimbledon Wimbledon	2,50 0.75	-3 -3 0 -4	40409 40410	M Kennedy J Molby	Liverpool Liverpool	2.00 0 +1 1.50 0 0
``;	30903	S Fitzgerald	Wimbledon	0,75	0 -8	40411	J McAteer	Liverpool	4.00 +3+26
΄:		СРепу	Wimbledon	1.00	-4 -18 0 -2	40501	G McAllister	Leeds United	4.00 +2+42
· ·	30905 31001		Wimbledon Southampton	2,50 1,50	1 +7	40502 40503	G Speed R Wallace	Leeds United Leeds United	4.00 +2+34 2.50 +2+14
		A Nellson	Southampton	1.50	0+10	40505	L Radebe	Leeds United	0.75 0 0
<u>.</u> ;		R Hell	Southampton Chelsea	1,50 1,50	-1 +6 0+14	40506	M Tinkler	Leeds United	0.50 0 +3
Ų.	31102	E Johnsen J Kleidbjerg	Chelsea	1.50	0 0	40507 40508	A Couzens M Ford	Leeds United Leeds United	1:00 +1 +2 1:00 0 +3
<u>`</u>		F Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00	+3 +6	40601	R Lee	Newcastle United	4.50 +2+46
		D Lee	Chelsea	0.75	+4+20	40603	D Ginola	Newcastle United	4.50 0+35
		M Duberry T Adems	Chelsea Arsenal	2.50 4.50	0 +1 0+27	40604	K Gillespie	Newcastle United	4.00 0+28
• •	31202		Arsenal	3.00	0+23	40605 40607	L Clark S Watson	Newcastle United Newcastle United	1.50 +4+32 1.50 +2+15
	31203	M Keown	Arsenal	1.50	0+17	40608	C Holland	Newcastle United	0.75 0 0
	31204 31301	A Linighan D Walker	Arsenal Sheffield Wednesday	1,50 2,50	0 -6 -11	40609	R Ellicit	Newcastle United	0.75 0 +1
	31401	S Potts	West Ham United	2.50	+3+10	40701 40702	D Anderton	Tottenham Hotspur	6.50 0 +3
٠.		M Rieper -	West Ham United	2.50	+6+11	40702	D Howells J Dozzeli	Tottenham Hotspur Tottenham Hotspur	1.50 0+23 0.75 0+16
٠.		A Martin A Whitbread	West Ham United West Ham United	1.00 0.50	0+21 0 0	40704	D Caskey	Tottenham Hotspur	0.75 0 +6
	31501		Everton	2.50	0+24	40705	G McMahon	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50 0 +7
		D Watson	Everton	2.50	-1 +9	40706 40707	l Dumitrescu R Fox	Tottenham Hotspur Tottenham Hotspur	4,00 0 +5. 6,00 +2+31
``		C Short	Everton	2.50 0.75	2+11 0 -7	40708	A Sinton	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00 +1 +9
: ;	31602 3 31603	D Rennie D Busst	Coventry City Coventry City	0.75	0.0	40801	S Barker	Queens Park Rangers	2.50 0+20
` <u>·</u>	31604	B Borrows	Coventry City	1.50	-3 -12	40802	i Holloway	Queens Park Rangers	2.50 0+14
::	31605		Coventry City	1.50	-3 -18	40803 40805	A impey T Sinclair	Queens Park Rangers Queens Park Rangers	1,50 0+29 3,00 +1+31
ં.		K Curle A Kemaghan	Manchester City Manchester City	1.50	+3+12 0 -1	40808	G Goodridge	Queens Park Rangers	0.75 0 0
:_`		K Symons	Manchester City	1.50	+7+18	40809	N Quashie	Queens Park Rangers	0.75 +3 +3
:		U Ehlogu	Aston Villa	2.50	-1+35	40901 40902	V Jones R Earle	Wimbledon Wimbledon	2.00 0 +9 2.50 0+37
٠.	31802 31804	• <u></u> •	Aston Villa Aston Villa	1.50 0.75	+3+25 0 +1	40903	M Gayle	Wimbledon	1.50 +3+21
		N Pearson	Middlesbrough	0.75	4 +9	40904	O Leonhardsen	Wimbledon	2.50 +1+33
Į.		S Vickers	Middlesbrough	0.75	-4+18	40905 40906	N Ardley P Fear	Wimbledon Wimbledon	0.75 0 0 0.75 0 +3
		P Whelen	Middlesbrough Middlesbrough	0.75 0.75	0 -8 0+14	41001	J Magilton	Southampton	3.00 +4+40
٠.	32001	D Whyte A Stubbs	Bolton Wanderers	1.50	-2 +1	41002	N Maddison	Southampton	2.00 0+16
	32002	C Fairclough	Bolton Wanderers	1.50	-1 -17	41003	N Heaney	Southampton	2.50 0+14
•		S Coleman	Botton Wanderers	0.75	0 0	41005 41006	D Hughes T Widdrington	Southampton Southampton	0.75 0 +6 1.00 0+16
·- :	32004	G Taggert G Strong	Bolton Wanderers Bolton Wanderers	1.50 0.50	0.9	41005	8 Venison	Southampton	1,50 +2+15
	32005	G Strong	DOILOR WAINERS	0.00			M Walters	Southampton	1.50 +2 +2
-							D Wise	Chelsea	5.00 0+36
							R Guillit	Chelsea	4.00 +3+31 3.00+11+28
- 1		nament and the management of the first of th	***************************************	1.7			G Peacock D Rocastie	Chelsea Chelsea	1.50 0 +1
						41105	N Spackman	Chelsea	0.75 0 +7
:	40102	D Batty	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	0+29	41106	C Burley	Chelsea	1.00 0+13
	40103	J Wilcox	Blackbum Rovers	5.00	0 0		E Newton	Chelsea	0.75 +3+31
7		T Sherwood	Blackburn Rovers		+1+29	41201	G Helder P Merson	Arsenal Arsenal	4.00 +1+23 4.00 +1+45
	40105	S Ripley P Warhurst	Blackburn Rovers Blackburn Rovers	2.00 2.50	0+31 0 +1	41202	R Pariour	Arsenal	2.00 0+13
- :	40107	M Holmes	Blackbum Rovers	1.00	0 +7	41205	E McGoldrick	Arsenai	1.00 0 0
	40110	L Boninen	Blackburn Rovers	4.00	+1+38		D Hiller	Arsenal	1.00 0 +2
	40111	W McKinlay	Blackburn Rovers	250	+1 +7		J Jensen	Arsenal	1.00 +1+14
	40112	G Fenton	Blackburn Rovers	0.75	0 +1		D Platt	Arsenal	4.50 0+29
	40201	R Giggs	Manchester United Manchester United		+1+43		A Clarke J Sheridan	Arsenal Sheffield Wednesday	1.50 +1 +2 2.50 0 +7
	40202 · 40203	R Keane L Sharpe	Manchester United		+1+22		A Sinton	Sheffield Wednesday	200 0 +8
	40205	N Butt	Manchester United		+1+27		C Waddle	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50 +1+27
· ·	40206	D Beckham	Manchester United		+1+29	41304	G Hyde	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50 0+10
•	40207	S Davies	Manchester United		0 +1		K Ingesson	Shaffield Wednesday	1.50 0 +5
٠- َ		C Bart-Williams			+2+26 +2+36		R Jones M Williams	Sheffield Wednesday Sheffield Wednesday	0.75 0 0
) Woan 5 Stone	Nottingham Forest Nottingham Forest	4.00	0+38		L Briscoe	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00 0 +2 0.75 0 +9
			Notingham Forest		+2+11			Sheffield Wednesday	1.50 0+18

2.00 :+2+23 41401 J Moneur

41309 M Pembridge

41404 M Allen

1.00 0 0

Nottingham Forest

NEWS

Teaching blamed for low standards

Half of all primary schools and four out of ten secondaries are falling below acceptable standards, the Chief Inspector of Schools said in a critical annual report demanding an overhaul of teaching methods.

Chris Woodhead pointed to widespread literacy and numeracy problems, and called for greater use of streaming according to ability - although he stopped short of demanding a wholesale return to traditional teaching ...

Snow from the west and more to come

Snow was being driven by high blustery winds across much of the country. Weathermen forecast that the snow would settle with temperatures set to hover around zero until the end of the week when another weather front, gathering over the Atlantic, may bring further snow falls... ..Page l

Fight for TV sport

The BBC launched a fierce lastminute campaign to prevent Britain's biggest sporting events being broadcast only on satellite Page 1 television ...

MPs' pay inquiry

A wide-ranging independent inquiry into the pay, allowances and pensions of MPs and ministers is expected to be announced

Ticket investigation

Police are prepared to launch a full criminal investigation into allegations of ticket fraud at LTS Rail, the train franchise that was pulled from the brink of privatisation... Page 2

Ashdown writ

Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, issued libel proceedings against a newspaper which published allegations about his personal life Page 2

Screening doubts

Fresh doubts about the accuracy of cervical screening tests carried out on millions of women were raised as a hospital disclosed that it would re-examine 70,000 cervical smears.

Homes crisis

Residents in a growing number of old people's homes are being put through the trauma of closure and relocation as a financial crisis grips the private care

Pension benefits

The benefits of occupational pension schemes will be extended to the staff of small firms under plans to be unveiled by Peter Lilley tomorrow......Page 10

American freeze

Ice floes have appeared in the Hudson and moustaches have snapped off in Minnesota. Record low temperatures were recorded as eastern America's freezing weather continuedPage II

Dole rattled

Robert Dole, the Republican front-runner, has rounded on Steve Forbes, the multi-millionaire publisher, because he has been shaken by Forbes's surge in popularity.....

Kremlin intrigue

One of President Yeltsin's closest aides is to drop a pre-election bombshell on the embattled Russian leader with a book on Kremlin power struggles Page 13

German aim

A large majority of Germans are in favour of European projects, including common foreign and defence policies, in spite of growing scepticism about European Monetary Union Page 14

Taiwan threatened

A huge Chinese troop mobilisation along its eastern coast facing Taiwan, ahead of the first presidential elections there, led to mounting tension Page 15

Squirrels killed to save squirrels

Grey squirrels are to be poisoned to save the rapidly dwindling native red squirrel. Food laced with warfarin will be placed in special hoppers on Anglesey. Previously the Ministry of Agriculture prohibited the poisoning of greys for fear that reds might also die but the Forestry Commission has designed a hopper that only the stronger greys can open Page 3



Geese search for feeding grounds after snow blanketed central Scotland and much of northern England yesterday. Page 1

Economy: Housing starts slumped

by 20 per cent in the last quarter of 1995, raising new fears about the strength of the economy. Growth in the money supply also slowed in

British Telecom: Oftel has ordered BT to cut £50 million a year from charges it makes for delivering long distance calls over BT phone .. Page 25

Sears: The retailer is selling its Curtess and Saxone shoe stores to privately owned retailer Facia for an undisclosed sum...

Markets: The FT-SE 100 fell 34.7 points to 3746.6. The sterling index was unchanged at 83.7, with the pound rising 1.37 cents to \$1.5327 but falling 58 plennigs to Page 28 DM2.2526

4 7 4 5 Cricket: The World Cup faced further disruption after West Indies

followed Australia's lead in asking for their match against Sri Lanka to be moved elsewhere..... Page 48 Football: Mick McCarthy, the Millwall manager, was confirmed as manager of the Republic of Ireland in succession to Jack

Charlton. McCarthy won 57 caps in his playing career.... Page 48 Selling: Jacky MacGillivary, 42, an Eastbourne housewife, will lead an amateur crew in the Whitbread Round The World Race, the pre-

mier racing event _____ Page 48 Racing: The sport's rulers and paymasters are seriously at odds over the Ladbrokes report which advocates changes to the "customerfriendly" fixture-list......Page 45

McGovern's Molière: The Hollywood star Elizabeth McGovern is

preparing for her British stage de-

but in Molière's Misanthrope at

the Young VicPage 34. Riot of Riley: A new London exhibition from Bridget Riley shows that the painter has lost none of her. exuberant command of brilliant

. Page 35 Beethoven complete: The Emerson String Quartet completed its cycle of all the Beethoven quartets at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in superb fashion last

Mozart honoured: Salzburg has a new Mozart shrine. The family home of the teenage prodigy has been refurbished as a fascinating

new museum.

IN THE TIMES

■ NET NOTES From Bach to Blur:

music on the Internet in Interface, our weekly guide to computers

ART VIEW Alan Coren offers an essential guide to surviving the Cézanne exhibition

Chinese herbs cure, Dr Thomas Stuttaford on dangerous diagnoses: therapies in other countries; lifestyle accessories Page 16

Packing heat: More and more American women are carrying miniature revolvers in their bags, either for decoration or for protection....

Nigelia Lawson: says that while transsexuals complain of the intoierance of the rest of us, it is they who are so intolerant Page 17

A legal insuit: Lord Woolf is looking into the civil justice system. The case of Ron Lipsius, the King's Cross fire victim, shows just how much reforms are needed .Page 37

South Africa's victory in the Afri-

can Nations Cup on Saturday February 3, adds a new chapter to the political and sporting fairy story which began on the day Nelson Mandela was freed. The former land of apartheid has amassed conquests in virtually every field from rugby to tourism, from cricket to diplomacy finishing off, for the time being, with football

Britain should not betray its own values of free speech and asylum in order to help Saudi Arabia stifle: political debate - New York Times

provide drama at Covent Garden. The House (BBC2, 9.30pm). Review: Peter Barnard says the medcal establishment could do with a public relations course Page 47

Stand by Taiwan

China has always maintained that it would invade Taiwan if it declares independence. Now faced by what it sees as an intolerable affront by a "renegade province", it is reported to be planning massive military manouevres in Fujian

Must try harder ...

Why are British school standards so low? Yesterday the still, small voice of Chris Woodhead, Chief Inspector of Schools, brought some calm to the impassioned national ...Page 19

Heroes of sport

In deciding to forfeit their match against Sri Lanka in the World Cun - to be played in the island's capital. Colombo - the Australians have acted neither with courage nor with diplomacy.......Page 19

LIBBY PURVES

Unethical business is an enemy of prosperity. One company may en rich itself by hanging on to another's money but the collapse of the creditor firm will cost every taxpayer something... Page 18

CHRIS WOODHEAD

Some primary teachers understandably embrace a theory which plays down the importance of intellectual content and puts a concern for the child at the heart of the educational process____Page 18 PETER RIDDELL Polls point to a firming of support.

particularly for Mr Major himself,

among traditional Tory backers, while economic optimism has begun to recover Page 10

Ruth Berghaus, German stage di-

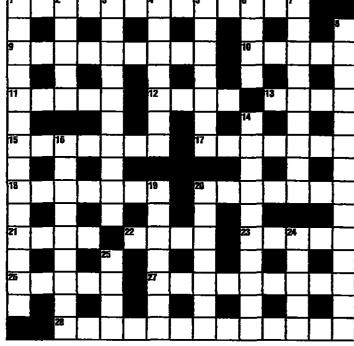
rector and choreographer; Profes-

sor Cyril Tyler, Deputy Vice

Chancellor of Reading University; Colonel Kaj Birksted, Danish fighter ace; Bernard Jones. horticulturalist Page 21

TV sporting events, Heseltine's payment advice; the EU and defence_..

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,083



ACROSS

- I Twin goes after gold? It's a gamble (6,2,5).
- 9 Solo player's call for food during a ball (9).
- 10 Return of musical group that's outstanding in joint production
- 11 King joins Irish county council leader (5). 12 Officer docked sailing ship (4).
- 13 Man-eater producing retreat by soldiers? (4). 15 Partnership's securing weapon
- contracts (7). 17 Relies on others for cakes (7). 18 Ill-starred pals she turned out (7).
- 20 Chase me with soldiers in weapons establishment down under (7). 21 Poverty revealed in magazine
- editorial (4). 22 To express pleasure audibly is simpler out East (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,082



- 23 Rake around front of garden. revealing red powder (5).
- 26 Not the cloth to spread around it
- 27 it mainly comes from this source
- of rumour (9). 28 Fruit for one possibly airing old

- I Casualty is a composer, we hear one depressed by some drivers (4.4.6).2 A lot of interest shown by univer-
- sity in American transport (5). 3 Trousers made using needle, and
- cut short? (10). 4 Many people are moved by such a
- volume (7). 5 Challenges curtailment of search, suppressing rising anger (7).
- 6 Small amount I found in Athens 7 Ungodliness eagerly reported in religious assembly (9).
- 8 Restrained declaration included in details of account (14).
- 14 Dreary fellow in business looks sullen (10).
- 16 Pilsner he ordered as refill (9). 19 Run like an old gentleman? (?).
- 20 Aggressive course taken by the brave (7).
- 24 It connects pipes in the students' club (5). 25 Stainer sounds dreadful to the
- audience (4). Times Two Crossword, page 48

TIMES WEATHERCALL For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, diel 0691 500 lollowed by the appropriate

Greater London
Karti, Surrey, Sussex
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West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent
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East Midlande
Last Midlande
East Midlande
Gwynedd & Powys
Gwynedd & Clwyd
N W England
N & Syorks & Dales
N & Eingland

ess.Orkney & Shedand .

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AA ROADWATCH

on & SE traffic, ros

HIGHEST & LOWEST Yesterday regress day sempt St stary's isses of Solly, 10C (SOF); lowest day made Estralermuir. Durrings and Galloway. 1C (SOF); highest machinal Machinestath. 1 38n; inchest surshine:

Eastern England will have a little light snow at first but become drier later. The rest of England and Wales The rest of England and Wales will also have occasional snow with heavy falls over the hills. South-

western areas will have showers of rain rather than snow. Much of Scotland will be cloudy with further snow, especially in the east and south, tuning more showery later. The northwest and the islands will have patchy light rain or snow.

Northern Ireland will be cloudy with

scually showers. it will be cold everywhere. London, SE, NE, E England, E Anglia: cloudy, light snow at first, drier later. Wind southeast, fresh

becoming moderate. Cold. Max 1C Central S, Cent N, NW England,

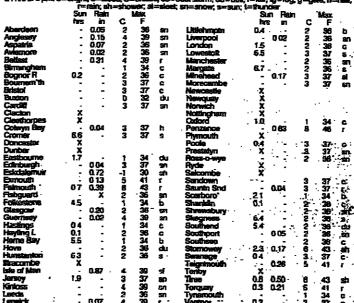
Drier later. Wind mainly southeast light to moderate. Cold. Max 0C (32F). Channel Isles, SW England, N Ireland: showers, some bright spells. Wind northwest, fresh to strong. Cold. Max 4C (39F).

■ Wales: cloudy with outbreaks of rain, sleet or snow and drier later. Wind northwest, light becoming fresh. Cold. Max 0C (32F).

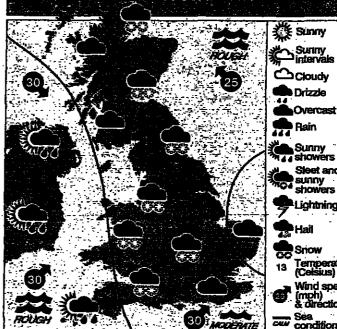
Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Cent Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll: snow, heavy at times becoming light later. Wind mainly south, moderate to fresh. Cold. Max 0C (32F). ☐ NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: cloudy, with patchy rain, sleet or snow. Wind west or southwest, moderate to fresh. Cold. Max 3C

Outlook cold with occasional sleet or snow in many areas

Midlands, Lakes, low: sleet or snow at times. Heavy snow over the hills.



0.3



Sleet and sunny showers **Lightning** Sriow Temperati (Celsius) Wind speed (mph) & direction

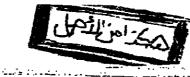
Sea conditions Changes to the chart below from noon; low K will hold its current position and fill slightly. High S will remain stationary and maintain its central pressure. Low Z will move southeast as it fills



7M 3:46 12:20 10:40 7:30 6:18 7:05 6:57 8:11 12:18 12:08 AM 3-30 0.06 10:47 0:43 7:12 6:42 5:45 0:00 11:44 7:25 4:41 0:30 HT 52 9.0 2.3 4.5 6.7 4.0 5.3 2.1 4.5 6.0 4.1 5.0 4.0 306 234 836 12:16 8:17 7:10 3:08 1:35 12:55 11:39 7:21 7:20 7:28

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Mouning war l'has despite





ARTS 34-36

The actress set to make Madonna out of Molière



LAW 37,39

How the courts should handle injury claims



SPORT 44-48

Cricket World Cup undermined by fears for security

Marie Marie Contract TELEVISION AND RADIO Pages 46,47

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 6 1996

Fears for overall economic growth after housing starts fall 20%

More: gloom in store for builders

THE number of houses that ly to push for another easing started construction in the final three months of 1995 stumped 20 per cent from a year earlier, presaging more misery for the industry and suggesting that, overall, the economy will fail to pick up

In 1995 as a whole, housing starts, including those built by the private sector and housing associations, totalled 169,700, a drop of 15 per cent compared with 1994. Private housing starts in the final quarter totalled 30,200, the lowest figure since the final three months. of 1992. Indeed, there have only been two lower quarterly totals in the last decade. In December private starts totalled i0,200, nearly 2i per cent down on December 1994.

Separate figures yesterday showed a drop in M0 narrow money supply in January, giving the lowest annual growth rate since October, Although the once close relationship between MO and retail sales has broken down in recent years, the City still. took the figures as a sign that the high street had a sloggesth ew year after a relativel

etary meeting between Kenneth Clarke, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England. Having cut base rates by a quarter point in both December and Janu- another rate cut or two later in

and Mr George exceedingly unlikely to advise one. Howard Davies, Deputy

Governor of the Bank, said at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, yesterday that the Chancellor's forecast of per cent growth this year, regarded as optimistic by many independent forecasters. was "well within the realms of

Shake-out hits **London prices**

A GLOBAL shake out in equi-ty, bond and futures markets yesterday saw leading shares in London fall heavily. The FT-SE 100 index ended 34.7

ts that the Bank continues deemed weak enough to to believe that the recent another cut in interest rates is a pause in growth and will at temorrow's monthly monning lead to a more serious slowdown and that therefore there are few grounds to cut

rates on this score. However, the latest evidence on the economy appears to leave the way open for

the spring. While the implica-

tion of MO is not clear, housing starts have proved to be a good indicator of future economic performance.

plunge in housing starts in 1989-90 was one of the first clues to the severity of the subsequent recession, and the continued refusal of starts remain sluggish. Saunders said that housing starts have weakened steadiadded that this implied that the broader economy was

M0 money supply fell by 0.2 per cent in January, the first month-on-month drop December, lower than the City had expected, Part of the reason for the fall in MO in January was a sharp decline in bankers operational deposits, which are extremely growth in notes and coins in circulation, the annual rate of growth still slipped to 5.7 per

likely to grow only slowly.

The City will now be waiting for the Confederation of British Industry's latest distributive trades survey published on Friday to see whether the drop in MO will be reflected in weak retail

Consumers shifting, page 29

BUILDING UP TO A SLUMP Thousand HOUSE CONSTRUCTION STARTS IN BRITAIN

Sears sells Saxone and **Curtess to** Hinchliffe

SEARS, the retail group, yes-terday announced the sale of Curtess and Saxone, the high street shoe chains, in a move that will result in 290 job losses over the next year.

A total of 134 Saxone and Curtess stores were sold to Facia, Britain's second largest privately owned retail group, group's ninth acquisition in 18 months. Facia acquired the stores and £10 million of assets from Sears for an undisclosed sum. City watchers estimate that Facia paid up to £5 million for the brand names.

Stephen Hinchliffe, the Sheffield businessman and sole holder of Facia ordinary shares, said: "This acquisition gives us critical mass. I am delighted to have completed the acquisition of Saxone and Curtess both of which are very strong high street brands and dovetail logically with our existing retail outlets. "The deal is the second between Facia and Sears. Last August, Facia acquired 245 shops in the Freeman Hardy & Willis, Trueform and Manfield chains from Sears.

Excluded from yesterday's deal are about 40 Curtess and Saxone stores that Sears is retaining and converting into its new formats, which include Shoe Express and Shoe City. The Ill-strong Saxone chain and the 124 Curtess stores were put up for sale by Sears early last month as part of the retail group's strategy of re-ducing the number of its shoe formats. At the time of announcing the planned disposal of Saxone and Curiess, Sears said that if it failed to months the chains would be closed, resulting in the loss of

1,700 jobs. Yesterday Sears said 90 jobs would go from British Shoe's head office in Leicester while a further 200 would be lost from the logistics division.

Retail king, page 29

Cost-cutting worries dampen BA shares despite record profits

By Ross Tieman, industrial correspondent

DOUBTS about the ability of is leading a crackdown on reducing costs hit the company's shares despite record the task remained tough, the profits of £534 million in the sayings represented only 3 per nine months to December 31. cent of BA revenues. Cost nine months to December 31. The shares ended at 502p.

Passenger traffic and revenues continued their climb during the third quarter. But what worried the City was the 9.2 per cent surge in group operating expenditure in the quarter, accompanied by a 5.9 per cent rise in unit costs to a level uncomfortably above the

projected rate. BA said the increase reflected investments in its first class and club world services. which are to offer passengers beds and cots on long-haulflights. A third of the cost increase was blamed on exchange rate movements.

But the rise provoked concern that BA might be coming to the end of its ability to cut £150 million from its operating costs every year, although Rob-ert Ayling, the chief executive finance chief, said that while

British Airways to go on costs. Derek Stevens, BA's and improved financial Like rival carriers, BA is benefiting from a strong recovery in air travel. Sir Colin reduction programmes were being implemented through Marshall, the chairman, said the "industry environment ...



Robert Ayling, chief executive, is cracking down on costs

remains favourable, with demand running ahead of capacity increases." Bookings had

off and "a record profit for the year is anticipated". The number of passengers carried by BA during the first nine months reached 24.8 million, up 5 per cent on the same months of 1994. Because essengers are tending to fly further, revenues per passenger were up 9.6 per cent on the same nine months of 1994, while BA flew with 74.8 per cent of its seats full, compared

recovered from a January fall-

The third-quarter figures were down a touch, partly reflecting the disposal of BA's Caledonian charter operation. Even so, BA achieved new third-quarter operating re-cords. Sir Colin expects to derive increasing benefits from its links with USAir, Deutsche BA and TAT European Airlines, its French operation.

with 24 per cent a year ago.

Tempus, page 28

Bombardier opens talks on Fokker

76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96

BOMBARDIER of Canada has opened talks with administrators of Fokker, the collapsed Dutch regional aircraft builder (Ross

Tieman writes).
The Canadian group, which owns De Havilland, Canadair, LearJet and Short Brothers in Belfast, confirmed discussions after repeatedly insisting it was not interested. The jobs of 1,500 workers at Short Brothers depend upon production of wings and components for the 80-seat and 110-seat jets

built by Fokker. Ben van Schaik, the Fokker chairman, told a press conference at the Singapore airshow that Bombardier was among five companies in talks with Fokker and its

The others were British Aerospace and Aérospatiale of France, which are partners in regional plane-maker Aero International Regional (AJR); Samsung Aerospace Industries of Korea and Taiwan Aerospace

BT ordered to cut charges to rivals

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

DON CRUICKSHANK, the cost of BT's redundancy Oftel chief, is ordering British Telecom to cut £50 million a year from charges for delivering long-distance calls carried

by rival phone companies. In a landmark determination, the director-general of telecommunications said that Britain's dominant phone company must cut so-called "access deficit" charges levied to compensate for losses on local exchange lines - by 8

At the same time, he ordered BT to cut inland conveyance charges by around 10 per cent. BT will lose around a fifth of its £250 million revenue from other phone companies -chiefly Mercury Communications - and the impact will become ever more significant as rivals eat into BT's share of

the UK telephony market. BT indicated that it will accept the Oftel determination but Peter Howell-Davies, chief executive of Mercury, was "appalled" that rivals would be obliged to share part of the

The ruling is the first arising from the newly imposed obligation on BT to separate the accounts of its network from the provision of phone services. It confirms Mr Cruickshank's determination to prevent BT from loading inappropriate costs onto businesses where other companies are obliged to share them.

the impact on BT would be up to £50 million a year, although analysts believe the company may seek to exaggerate the impact in business as part of the drive to maximise revenues from rival operators. Nonetheless, the cut in charges will make it easier for rivals to attack BT's core business and domestic telephone markets. ☐ Cellnet, the mobile phone

company owned 60 per cent by BT and 40 per cent by Securicor, is to cut charges by 30 per cent and switch to persecond billing.

BUSINESS TODAY

US, PATE

NORTH SEA OIL

Srent 15-day (Apr) \$16.10 (\$16.2) eoro .--

London close \$414.75 (\$415.15)

Scottish Widows to shed 700 jobs

By MARIANNE CURPHEY

UP TO 700 jobs are to go at Scottish Widows, the UK's fifth-largest life office, in a nationwide cost-cutting exercise that will reduce expenses by 30 per cent.

Most of the redundancies will be at the head office in Edinburgh, where operations are being streamlined and between 500 and 600 jobs will be lost by next January.

A further 100 people will go from the six regional business centres, in Birmingham, Bristol, Croydon, Leeds, London

and Manchester.

David Graham, head of marketing, said that all applications for life and pensions policies would be handled in Edinburgh from June 30, and compulsory redundancies would be necessary. "We will try to lose the 600 jobs in head office through retirement, voluntary redundancy and natural wastage, but I expect few members of staff in the regions will want to relocate to

Edinburgh," he said. Mr Graham said this was in line with requests from independent financial advisers that new business processing be concentrated in one centre, although the IFA sales force would not be affected.

Mike Ross, chief executive of Scottish Widows, said that the action followed "a comprehensive examination of all functions at head office". He added: "Our over-riding aim is to drive down costs, while driving up productivity and quality. The measure we are taking will yield a step change in our performance, and will build on our new business success last year in increasing our new premium income by 44 per cent"

John Osbotne.

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John Charcol.

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OBOO 71 31 91

If the property is the state of the control of the

Exchange 'needs closer focus'

By PATRICIA TEHAN BANKING CORRESPONDENT

IAN PLENDERLEITH. the Bank of England monetary policy director who was asked to become nonexecutive deputy chairman of the Stock Exchange to help it through its leadership crisis last month, has said the exchange needs to develop "a more closely-

focused role". In a speech in Cardiff last night, Mr Plenderleith gave his opinion of the exchange's future role and the debate over trading systems for the first time. He said the exchange "still has an important contribution to make to our financial system."

The exchange has been accused by critics of at-tempting to maintain its dominant position in London by keeping out new competitors. But he said it is operating in a world in which technology makes it possible for new trading mechanisms to spring up quickly in response to needs. The exchange's aim, he said, was "to offer competitive services for investors with capital to invest and for companies needing to raise capital. It in no way seeks any special status as of right, nor any exclusive

He said it would develop a more closely focused role by concentrating on providing a primary market structure for companies to raise capital and by provid-ing a liquid and fair trading market structure for secondary trading of securities. He reinforced the exchange's position on electronic order-matching as part of its Sequence project. A committee will report to the board on its introduction in March.

Mr Plenderleith was asked to become deputy chairman after Michael Lawrence lost the confidence of the board and was dismissed as chief executive. His appointment is ance to the City.

TOURIST

HATES



هكذا من الرجها.

Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, and He Guangyuan, of China's Ministry of Machinery Industry, yesterday signed an agreement that is expected to lead to collaborative projects in the automotive industry between the two countries. China is expected to be the biggest automotive market in the world by the year 2005, requiring components worth a total of £6 billion up to the end of the century, and £24 billion in service parts

Pharmacia & Upjohn chooses British HO

UPJOHN of America and Pharmacia of Sweden, the pharmaceuticals companies that completed a \$13 billion merger in November, unveiled their new British headquarters yesterday and said that the group is considering a listing on the London Stock Exchange. The group, to be called Pharmacia & Upjohn, is, however, unlikely to create many jobs in Britain over the next few years. About 100 senior

managers, including John Zabriskie, the chief executive, will be based in Windsor. There are no immediate plans to create employment beyond the head office, such as establishing a research and development centre or an additional manufacturing site. In fact, overall employment

in Britain is likely to decline in the short term. Before the merger was completed, the two companies said they would eliminate 4,000 of their 34,500 jobs worldwide. Total British employment stands at

about 600.

Company officials said they could not reveal yet how many British workers would be made redundant. An announcement on global job losses will be made next

P&U said it chose a site near London for its new headquarters because the city is emerg-ing as a global pharma-ceuticals centre. Mr Zabriskie said: "London was chosen because it is recognized as the world's leading financial and transportation centre . . . and it was the obvious choice for a truly global

pharmaceuticals

P&U will be the fourth largest drugs group based in or near London, after Glaxo Wellcome, SmithKline Bee-



Zabriskie: Windsor base

annual turnover of about \$7 billion and an R&D budget of \$1 billion, putting it in the top

P&U was created through a tax-free share swap that left the group with \$1 billion in cash and no debt. The company said its financial flexibility will allow it to expand by acquiring new products or companies.

The shares are listed on the New York and Swedish exchanges and Bob Salisbury, the chief financial officer, said the group would like to have a London listing. "We're currently looking into the listing requirements." he said.

P&U will have leading positions in cancer research and treatments for metabolic diseases, critical care, infectious diseases and female fertility.

Korean jobs boost for

MORE THAN 300 jobs will be created in an unemployment blackspot in South Wales with a £17 million investment by one of South Korea's largest industrial

The Halla Group, which employs almost 14,000 people

groups, with annual sales in excess of \$5.6 billion. Its interests include shipbuilding and aerospace, in addition to automotive equipment and

construction. Halle is the first Korean company to relocate to Wales. The decision was taken after nearly a year of negotiations with the Welsh Development Agency (WDA) and the Welsh Office, and the receipt of a

special package of grants.
David Rowe-Beddoe, chairman of the WDA, who visited Halle's headquarters in Seoul last December, said: The company informed us that it wants to source as many components as possible locally. That means that, as well as the 309 direct jobs to be created, there will be a substantial number of additional jobs created indirectly at the companies that will supply

the Merthyr plant."
Merthyr Tydfil, the historic cradle of Britain's steel industry, has fared badly in the last 15 years, losing around 6,000

engineering jobs.

The WDA will build a purpose-designed, 225,000 sq it factory on the edge of the town for sale to Halla.

Lloyd's seeks bids

Equitas

to manage

LLOYD'S OF LONDON is to invite bids from a group of UK and US fund managers to manage more than £10 billion of assets that could generate fees of up to £50 million a year. The assets are due to be

transferred into Equitas, a new reinsurance company being set up by Lloyd's to take over all the insurance market's old-year liabilities. The assets are currently held by Lloyd's syndicates as reserves to meet these future liabilities. However, a proportion of the assets will come from Lloyd's names in the form of a fee payable to Equitas in return for off-loading their liabilities to the reinsurance company.

Equitas, intends to invite about 10 fund managers to bid for a share of the £10 billionplus contract. A short list is expected to be drawn up in the next couple of months with the

selection of managers taking place in April or May.

A large proportion of the insurance market's future liabilities relates to asbestosis and rollution claims from the and pollution claims from the US. Reflecting the currency of the underlying risk, up to 70 per cent of the assets will be in the form of US dollars.

The future of Equitas has yet to be secured and depends on the go-ahead of several parties, including names and the Department of Trade and Industry. The formation of Equitas is an integral part of a £2.8 billion recovery package that Lloyd's is in the process of forming. The recovery package aims to settle the mass of legal actions taken by names against Lloyd's agents as well as offering financial help to names struggling to meet the bills Equitas will present to them for taking over their oldyear liabilities.

For the plan to succeed, Lloyd's needs its names' support. The timing of when names vote on the recovery plan may suffer a delay as Lloyd's ruling council may decide tommorow against asking names to vote when they do not know the final details of their individual bills from Equitas or their share of funds available to settle their lingation. As a result the vote, due before the end of March, may be put off until May.

Self-assessment will cost firms £500m'

THE compliance cost to employers of implementing self assessment, the new tax regime whereby taxpayers will be required to assess their own liabilities, will exceed £500 million. according to new research by taxation specialists at Coopers & Lybrand. The figure compares with the Inland Revenue's estimate of between £60 million and £122 million.

The accountant also believes additional recurrent costs to employers will exceed £100 million each year, which differs significantly from the Revenue's forecast of between E20 million and E30 million. The total cost equivalent of individual taxpayers' time in reading through and completing the "easy-to-follow, new-look tax return" could amount to £1 billion a year. This estimate is based on the latest draft of the tax return which currently runs to at least 62 pages for an individual with one job and no other income. Martin Benson, a Coopers & Lybrand employee tax specialist, said he thought the £500 million compliance cost "a conservative estimate".

IOCI aims for market

IOC INTERNATIONAL, which designs and manufactures optoelectronic components used to modulate beams of light within a fibre optic system, is applying to join the Alternative Investment Market. The company proposes to raise 55 million through a placing of shares by Henry Cooke, Lunsden, the broker, with trading expected to start next month. Private investors may apply for shares through ShareLink. The company requires funds to finance additional working capital as sales grow, to invest in capital equipment and to repay its preference share capital.

Gold price steadies

ANALYSTS would not be surprised to see the gold price ease back to about \$405 an ounce after the recent jump that has lifted the metal by \$30 since the beginning of the year. Gold last night closed hardly changed at \$414.50 an ounce in what dealers said was a pause for consolidation. Andy Smith, gold analyst at UBS, the broker, said the market continued to be bullish but "after a \$10 movement in one week, you would expect a pause for thought": Healthy profit taking was to have been expected after the reported rush of US funds into the metal last week.

Bloomsbury blooms

BLOOMSBURY, the publisher founded in 1986, has announced record book sales for January. The company reported pre-tax losses of E391,000 to June last year but has shown signs of recovery with three books in The Sunday Times bestseller list. Snow Falling on Cedars, a first novel by David Gutterson, has sold more than 270,000 copies in paperback and, along with the official film edition of Sense and Sensibility, is credited with leading the way in Bloomsbury's recovery.

Redland asset offer

REDLAND, the building materials company, may consider asset swaps for parts of its brick-building business. Paul Hewitt, group finance director, said yesterday: "We would certainly look favourably upon a company that could give us something in return apart from just cash." Redland also confirmed that it is looking to restructure its European roof-tile operations. The brick-building division was worth £220 million at December 31, 1994, and pre-tax profits were £24 million. Redland shares fell 9p to 395p.

Buyout agreed at Cray

CRAY ELECTRONICS, the data communications company whose shares collapsed last summer, has conditionally agreed a E3.3 million management buyout of IT Management Programme, its subsidiary. Management at ITMP already owns 25 per cent of their company, which is a subscription-based research business for information technology in industry and commerce. ITMP made an operating profit of £208,000 on turnover of £1.35 million in the year to April 1995. The sale will require shareholder approval.

EU inflation holds at 3%

INFLATION in the European Union was steady at 3 per cent for the year to December, little changed for nearly 12 months, the EU's statistical office reported yesterday. The 12-months figure in December 1994 was 3 per cent, and ranged between 3 and 3.2 per cent throughout 1995. Of the EU's 15 members, ten had inflation of less than 3 per cent. Inflation was greater than the average figure in five countries, comprising Britain (3.2 per cent), Portugal (3.4 per cent), Spain (4.3 per cent), Italy (5.7 per cent) and Greece (8.1 per cent).

French demand slowing

FRANCE'S business community expects demand and employment levels to fall for the third successive quarter in the first three months of 1996, a survey from insee, the statistics office, showed yesterday. The news came only days after the Government said the jobless had exceeded three million in November and December adding that this was likely to de-teriorate before a second-half improvement. The quarterly Insee survey of company chiefs, conducted in January, was the most pessimistic on short-term prospects since October

GEC arm in rail order

LINKE-HOFMANN-BUSCH, GEC Alsthom's German subsidiary, has won a Fr25 billion order for 58 suburban trains for the city of Hamburg from German National Railways. GEC Alsthom is a joint venture between Britain's General Electric and Alcatel Alsthom, of France. LHB is the head of a consortium which includes ABB, the engineering group. LHB will make the mechanical parts of the trains and carry out finishing work, while ABB will supply electrical systems. The first trains are due in 1997, and the last in the year 2000.

Two number one slots in broker survey

Warburg 'top for research'

BY PATRICIA TEHAN, BANKING CORRESPONDENT.

IN SPITE OF its troubles last year. Warburg - now SBC Warburg held on to its reputation as the top investment bank for UK research.

A survey of 213 of the UK's biggest publicly quoted companies put Warburg top for research for the fifth successive year and top for expertise in corporate finance for the ninth year.

But according to the annual broker survey, published by the Securities Institute, the professional association of stockbroking firms, it fell to second place for corporate finance advice, beaten by

After its collapse and subsequent rescue by ING last year, Barings slipped from fifth to tenth place in the rating of banks. NatWest Securities has leapt from NatWest's oil and gas analyst. John

fifth place to second in the research league, followed by Kleinwort Benson, which has slipped from second place.

The survey of finance directors and corporate treasurers was undertaken in November last year. It demonstrated the November last year. It demonstrated the inroads made by US and continental European houses, with Merrill Lynch; formerly Smith New Court, moving from sixth to fourth place, and UBS moving up two notches to sixth places.

BZW fell four places to seventh and James Capel, which held on to its place in the two two between 1986 and 1993, fell

the top two between 1986 and 1993, fell

from fourth to sixth place.

Roger Moore, Warburg's property for UK industry this ye analyst, held on to top place for three 69 per cent last year. years in a row as did Fergus MacLeod.

Spicer, Warburg's brewing analyst, kept his top place, as did Mark Duffy, its food producers analyst, and Ewan Fraser. James Capel's engineering analyst.
On the financial side, Richard Cole-

man, of Merrill Lynch, was top banking analyst and his colleague. Stephen Bird, was top insurance analyst.

The survey also showed that finance directors and corporate treasurers were less confident about the prospects for UK industry as a whole this year - the first fall in confidence since 1990 and the lowest since 1992.

Only 45 per cent expressed optimism for UK industry this year, compared with

Pennington, page Zl



Resea for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Bardays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' checkes. Rates as at close of trading

LEGAL NOTICES

Bisnk Buys 2.12 16.93 49.56 2.215 0.760 9.537 7.53 8.20 2.42 385.00 12.49 1.02 5.1900 2523.00 176.30 2.683 2.42 2.46.00 11.32 1.98.00 11.32 1.98.00 11.32 1.98.00 11.33

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

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Inquiry opens into Yorkshire drought By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY THE inquiry into Yorkshire's drought crisis starts today

NOTICE
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THE REGLUENCY ACT 1986
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SENATE MANAGEMENT
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investigaion outlines his reference terms and timetable. Professor John Uff, an expert in engineering law and arbitration, will begin the inquiry — expected to last two weeks — into why the company came close to imposing

his departure, has blamed

cuts in supply last year. His report should be made public by the end of April.

Yorkshire Water, whose chairman last year announced

exceptionally dry weather and topographical difficulties. when the head of the Critics have claimed a high leakage rate of 33 per cent. Yorkshire places the figure at 26 per cent.

Last year it said it would invest an extra £100 million in improving supplies, including pumping water across from the east of the region to the west. Yorkshire transported tankerloads of water from the Kielder Reservoir to stave off

South Wales blackspot

worldwide, is to produce forklift trucks, mechanical diggers and other earth-moving equipment for the European market in Merthyr Tydfil, Mid Glamorgan. Halle is one of Korea's top international

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☐ Special dividend not the answer to demerger doubts ☐ Too bright a view of City research ☐ Bid fever among the TV stocks

THE arrival in the market of rumours of a special dividend as .. a sweetener to the impending break-up of Hanson smacks of desperation, as well as a distinctly un-Hansonish attack of

short-termism. Last week there was no detail on how the balance sheets of Hanson's four constituent parts would measure up post-demer-ger, and not a whill of a payment to those loyal investors who have stayed in as the shares have underperformed the market year after year. Now the company has confirmed, that yes, such a payment is being considered, although nothing has been decided as yet. This begs the obvious question why it was not himsel at in last meeting. hinted at in last week's ex-haustive briefings. The even more obvious answer is that if has something to do with the hakewarm response in the City to

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the demerger plans.

If this is the case, then it has not had the desired effect of sparking any great enthusiasm in those plans. Hanson shares were on the slide again yes-terday, admittedly in a falling market. All it has done is raise expectations of a payout which the company, if the final decision goes the other way, will have difficulty in playing down again.

The City was always going to be lukewarm. Most analysts are timed creatures and hate change.

Over-egging the Hanson pudding . While the benefits of break-up are dividends have to be cut - for

not going to become apparent for several years at least. Hanson's dismal share price performance notwithstanding, the company has sufficient clout to square up to the doubters if board and advisers, generally believe in their stated strategy. Hanson's 12p dividend last year was less than twice covered

by earnings, and analysts' projections suggest no change in this state of affairs if, as expected, it is held at this level this year or next Any doubling as is being suggested, would have to be a one off that could not be justified on trading grounds.
It would have the advantage of

persuading those income funds who are now supposed to be considering dumping their Hanson shares to stay in for now. Their concern is that some or all of the four little demerged Hansons might not be able to hold dividends at the levels they have come to expect.

But a £640 million special pay out, as being forecast, would have to come off the balance sheets of those companies, pretty well ensuring that some future

example, at a chemicals business. that will sooner or later have to face up to another cyclical

Sensing this, the income funds might just cut and run as soon as the special dividend is paid, leaving other investors to brave any subsequent fall in the shares. This is presumably not the legacy Lord Hanson wishes to be a long way from leave, and it is a long way from adding shareholder value. If the strategy was right last week, it is right now and does not need a dollop of syrup to sell it to the faint hearts. Lord Hanson should stand firm.

Chaff and grain among analysts

☐ THOSE capable of casting their minds back as far as the last election, if no further, will be aware of the inadequacies of modern opinion polls.

The annual stockbroker sur-

vey by Consensus Research, on behalf of the Securities Institute, Warburg, in its latest, SwissPENNINGTON



owned, incarnation. Warburg's lead has even been extended, rather than being whittled away by recent traumas.

However, the survey also sug-gests, somewhat tongue in cheek, that corporate opinion-makers' view of City research has been rising without a break over the past decade. Last year a net "im-provement" of 31 per cent was detected, as measured by the difference between those who unaccountably thought the City's work was better and those sensing a deterioration.

All this proves is the statistical

tendency towards positive think-ing of anyone filling in such a questionnaire — unless its subject is British Gas or British Rail. Corporate Britain is deeply sceptical about the quality of research carried out on companies, if not quite as unimpressed as the fund managers to whom such research is normally marketed.

The experience is the same for any decent-sized company required to put on results briefings for the City. Some 40 or 50 analysts will arrive, far more than the volume of business in that sector can ever support, of whom perhaps a dozen are fairly competent. Three or four may be outstanding, and to them go the six-figure salaries.

The middle-rankers can be left alone to look after themselves and not cause too much damage The duffers have to be nursemaided by expensive investment relations teams so that their profits forecasts are on the right block and do not cause mass panic when reality and the next set of figures eventually intrude. The fund managers are more

brutal. Nine tenths of broker's circulars go in the bin straight away, and lew of the rest are read cover to cover. Those managers know who the three or four heavy-hitters are in each sector and restrict their attention to

them. This is why the same names reappear year after year on the annual analysts' ranking surveys — and why these are a far more reliable pieces of statis-

rather than number of franchises will allow Carlton to expand. It could also be frustrated by a rival bidder.

One of the attractions for HTV in talking to Carlton, ironically, is to avoid the attentions of Scottish, which itself has 20 per cent. Flextech, with a similar cent. Flextech, with a similar stake, now wants out, having abandoned plans of a Celtic alliance. Then, of course, Carlton could go for Scottish, so acquiring a chunk of HTV...

combinations on size of audience

How reminiscent it all seems of that frantic round of bids and deals a couple of years ago that last carved up the ITV map and there is also the question of who is stalking Pearson, a big player if one not represented on that map. But under other crossmedia ownership rules, Mirror Group has a problem. It can grow no further in TV, because of its 23 per cent share of the

national paper market.

David Montgomery, increasingly preferring TV, even topless darts players on Live TV, Heaven help us, to the written word, is lobbying hard for a change to the rules. The Mirror chief executive wants the limit raised from 20 to 25 per cent to allow a purchase. His only other option is to sell or close a newspaper — or at least, to threaten such a drastic move in order to put pressure on the Heritage Department.

" Dalgety's half-year results fail to live up to City expectations

By SARAH BAGNALL

DALGETY, the pet-food giant that owns Spillers and Felix. yesterday revealed a sharp fall in underlying pre-tax profits from £60.9 million to £47 million in the six months to

The results were at the lower end of City expectations, prompting several analysis to trim their full-year forecasts by about £10 million to £125

Including, several, one off items that resulted in a 122 million net gain, the pre-tax profit comparison improved to 169.4 million against 160.9 million last time. This was mainly owing to a 662 million, profit on Dalgety's sale of its Homepride cooking saides. Golden Wonder spacks and instant hot spacks. However, partly offsetting this gain were £29 million of

million provision for revalu-

ing property

The reorganisation costs are part of the £70 million that year; with its existing pet-food



John Martyn, Dalgety's finance director, and Richard Clothier, chief executive, yesterday

Richard Clothier, chief exec-Dalgety is spending on inte-grating Quaker's European the resulting benefits of the pet-fixed interests, which it programme would be acquired for £442 million last achieved next year — a year earlier than originally forecast. However, analysis ques-

tioned whether the annual saving of £40 million would feed through in full to the bottom line.

The City was slightly disappointed by the group's decision to hold its interim

dividend at 8.5p but most analysts agreed that this was prudent given the company's current financial state.

The Quaker acquisition helped the group to lift pet-foods profits from £11.6 mil£387 million, up from £160 million last time. Stripping out the benefits of the Quaker business reveals that Dalgety's original Spillers business suffered a fall in profits. However, Spillers' performance is now on the

mend. Maurice Warren, the chairman, said: "The Ouaker business has fully lived up to our expectations and so have the opportunities for cost reduction. Sales of the long-established Spillers products were lower in the period immediately after the acquisition, but I am pleased to say that the sales levels are now recovering."

Agribusiness profits rose 25 per cent to £20.7 million, while food ingredients profits slipped from £18.1 million to £15.1 million, reflecting higher raw material prices.

The group's food distribu-tion arm saw profits slip from £7.7 million to £6 million. The dividend is due on June

and is payable out of underlying earnings per share of 10.8p, down from 16.9p last time. The shares fell 2p to

Tempus, page 28

Profits of Waste Henderson suffers profit fall

tical research.

Piranhas in the

haunted fishtank

☐ THE commercial television

companies are heading for another round of frantic thrash-

ing and floundering within their little corporate goldlish bowl.

This summer should, with a little

help from the Government, see

at least a couple lose their much-prized independence.

The cross-holdings between

Scottish TV, HTV and the Mir-

ror Group are complex, but they are due for some simplification now Flextech has effectively put

Scottish on the market. HTV is

already thought to be in its own talks with Michael Green at

Carlton; Mirror Group is the most obvious buyer for Scottish.

Any HTV deal needs the

passage of the Broadcasting Bill

later this year, which by calculating the permitted

By Patricia Tehan

HENDERSON Administration, the fund manager, suffered a £10,000 fall in pre-tax profits, to £14.85 million, in the nine months to December 31, in spite of an exceptional profit of £297,000 from selling its interest in The Administration Partnership. Total funds under man-

agement fell from £11.9 billion to £11.37 billion over the nine-month period, but rose from March's £11.1 billion. reflecting positive movements in world markets.

Funds under management in investment trusts increased from £3.6 billion to £4.2 billion. Unit trusts rose from £1.27 billion in December 1994 to £1.35 billion, and Peps were up from £406 million to £510 million. The biggest fall was in institutional funds, down from £4.5 hillion to £2.35 hillion

Ben Wrey, chairman, said the final-quarter outcome would depend mainly on world market levels, but Henderson's changed mix of potential "for future growth".

Management down by £142m

PROFITS of Waste Management International slumped to £23.13 million before tax, from £165.16 million last year, as heavy restructuring costs took their toll.

The company, the UK arm of America's WMX Technologies, charged £123 million against the restructuring, which took place largely in the final quar-ter. The overhaul included closing offices to cut overheads and withdrawal from markets no longer having potential for significant growth.

There was a loss per share of 0.9p, compared with earnings of 27.8p in the previous 12 months. Again there is no dividend. The shares fell op to 332p. When the company obtained a stock market listing in London, in 1992, they were offered at 585p.

Since then, intense competition in a contracting market. waste, and the increasing burden of complying with tighter regulation, has dogged the company, which now operates in ten European countries and

has smaller operations in Asia

and Latin America. Waste Management reported favourably on operations in Britain. The Netherlands and

New Zealand. Operations in Italy suffered from political and financial instability and rising labour costs. Business in France suffered from nationwide strikes late in 1995. Waste Management last year made 25 acquisitions, mostly small, to expand its recycling capacity, in Britain and Italy in particular.

The company said that it expected cash flow to rise to about £70 million in 1996, from £41 million last year. Approved capital spending for 1996 is £150 million.

Joseph M. Holsten, chief ex-ecutive, said: "Our perfor-mance in 1995 was disappointing. We have, however, taken steps to position ourselves for improved results." The rement focus resources in areas that, in the long term, would provide the greatest returns.

Tempus, page 28

Invitation to the Annual General Meeting

Thyssen Aktiengesellschaft invites skareholders to the 42nd Annual General Meeting on Friday, 22nd March 1996, at 10.00 am, in the Mercater-Halle, König-Heinrich-Platz, Duisburg.

pany and the Group, as well as of the management report on usen AG and the Thysses Groep for the fiscal year 1994/95, together with the report of the Supervisory Beard

Resolution on the appropriation of net earnings It is proposed to pay a dividend of DM 10.00 for each share of DM 50.00

of the Supervisory Board 4. Election of stability andhors

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7. Resolution on the creation of sutherized capital II and an the amendment to the Articles of Association 8. Resolution on the authorization to issue beads with warrants,

the creation of potential capital, as well as on the amendment to the Articles of Association

9. Other amendments to the Articles of Association

According to Article 13 of our company's Articles of Association, such shareholders are entitled to participate in the Annual General Meeting as, on or before 15th March 1996, have deposited, and left there until the close of the Armuel General Meeting, their shares with the deposit bank, SBC Warburg a division of Swiss Bank Corporation in Great Britain.

Dusseldorf, February 1996

. The Executive Board



THYSSEN AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT

CentreGold in bid negotiations

SHARES in CentreGold were suspended at 37p yes-terday after the troubled computer games distributor said it was in advanced negotiations concerning a possible offer for the

company.

CentreGold first confirmed persistent City ru-mours of a possible bid for the company in December, when the board declared that a number of parties were interested in buying all or part of its business, but nothing has been heard since

The shares were floated on the stock market in October 1993 at 125p each. In 1995 it issued two profit warnings and indicated that it would pass the final dividend.

Takeover talk sends Scottish TV higher

SHARES of Scottish Television, the ITV company in central Scotland, rose to a new high yesterday as rumours circulated that it was a takeover target (See Pennington,

this page).

City analysts said the shares

By Eric Reguly

66 a share.

rose because the market now believed that Flextech and Mirror Group, which each own 20 per cent of Scottish Television, would welcome a takeover at the right price. Roger Luard, chief executive

of Flextech, would say only that "at the end of the day, there's a price for everything". Scottish Television shares rose 36p to 566p, breaking their previous high of 530p, on volume of 292,000. SBC Warburg is to publish an investment note this week that is said to value the company at The most likely buyers are

Granada, Carlton and MAI, each of which will have room to expand under the ownership rules of the new Broadcasting Bill. Under the proposed legislation, Mirror Group would be prevented from buying Scot-

HTV, the ITV company in the West of England and Wales, would not comment yesterday on reports that it was in merger talks with Carlton. There is speculation that Carlton will attempt to buy Scottish Television if any talks with HTV break down.

Computer company reshapes itself

Amstrad to shed 150 jobs

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

AMSTRAD, the computer

company, is to cut up to 150 johs in a reorganisation of its consumer electronics division. Amstrad Trading, which concentrates on retail sales, will be slimmed down to improve efficiency and will work on developing new product lines. Amstrad Direct, which was launched only last year, will be relocated at Alperton, northwest London. and will be managed as an independent subsidiary by Viglen, Amstrad's computer-making subsidiary. Amstrad Direct's factory in Shoebury will be closed by May of this Amstrad's consumer elec-

tronics division has not made a profit for three years and last Sugar: aiming to move staff

year disclosed a £16 million loss. In December, David



Rogers, chief executive, resigned over the plans to reorganise the consumer division. After the restructuring is

to concentrate on the professional market while Amstrad Direct will remain focused on the consumer market. Amstrad said that it will attempt to relocate staff within the company, but it predicts a total reduction in staffing levels of about 150. There will be further job losses in the European subsidiaries. Alan Sugar, the chairman. said: "The market trend in

consumer electronics means that only lean organisations who concentrate on their core skills will flourish. "This reorganisation puts Amstrad Trading and Amstrad Direct on an equal

basis to their respective competitors." Amstrad shares closed up 1.5p, at 187p.

MARSH & **MCLENNAN COMPANIES**

Results for the year ended 31st December, 1995 (Unaudited)

	\$ million (except per share figures)		
٠.	1995	1994*	
Total Revenue	\$3,770.3	\$3,435.0	
Total Expense	3,075.4	2,764.7	
Operating Income	694.9	670.3	
Income Before Income Taxes	649.8	631.5	
Net Income	402.9	371.5	
Net Income Per Share	\$5.53	\$5.05	
Dividends Paid Per Share	\$2.975	\$2.80	
*Reflects the adoption, effective January 1, Accounting for Postemployment Benefits."	1994, of SFAS No. 1	112, "Employers"	

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> Bowring Marsh & McLennan C.T. Bowring & Co. (Insurance) Carpenter Bowring William M. Mercer Victor O. Schinnerer & Company The Frizzell Group Putnam Europe

National Economic Research Associates Mercer Management Consulting

Brokers braced for a fall as bonds continue slide

THE London stock market is likely to suffer a major correction before too long. That is the conclusion of a growing number of brokers who have become increasingly worried by the erratic behaviour of the market in recent weeks.

Bonds on both sides of the Atlantic and equities in London fell sharply vesterday. while gold continued to trade at a five-year high. Gilt-edged prices have suffered heavy losses during the past couple of weeks despite a further softening of interest rates.

Steve Scott, gilts analyst at Kleinwort Benson, says economists are becoming increasingly alarmed about growth. suggesting that inflationary pressure is still giving cause for concern. Economic growth is just not compatible with the fall in bond yields seen of late", he adds.

It is no doubt something Kenneth Clarke, the Chancelior, and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, will address tomorrow at monthly economic

Meanwhile, a leading equity trader also warned: "Bond markets are on the slide again and the equity market is too high. The day of reckoning is just round the corner. I think we should be bracing ourselves for a major correction of several hundred points in the

He pointed out that the last major correction began on February 7, 1994, which preceded a quarter-point cut in base rates to 5.25 per cent. It was to be another 18 months before the index regained those levels.

In the event, yesterday's losses in the bond market and an opening setback for the Dow Jones average on Wall Street left the FT-SE 100 index nursing a fall of 34.7 points at 3,746.6 Turnover reached 722 million shares.

There was the usual clutch of bid stories doing the rounds. The first suggested that Pearson was about to be bid for by Viacom, the US entertainments group. Both companies have interests in lishing and television and break-up situation. Pearson rose 15p to 670p.

Scottish Television leant 36p to a new peak of 566p on talk of a possible bid. The Daily Mirror holds a 20 per cent stake in the company, with the FMR Corporation



Scottish Television, makers of Taggart, rose 36p

accounting for a further 7.67 per cent. Speculators say the bid is more likely to come from Cariton Communications, which holds the London area independent television weekday franchise. Carlton eased 3p to £10.67, while the Mirror Group rose 4p to 195p.

British Acrospace dropped 24p to 875p after Kleinwort Benson, the broker, altered its Trueform and Manfield shoe shop chains. Sears says it will now concentrate its efforts on its British Shoe subsidiary.

Ferguson International touched 192p before ending the session 21p lower at 196p after warning of a profits shortfall. The labels and hangers group said it would struggle to exceed £11.5 million, down from the previous year's

Hanson shares lost a further 4½p at 192p after last week's announcement that the group is being split. NatWest Securities, the broker, is urging clients to sell. Analyst Chris Ralph calculates that the total amount of dividend paid out will be lower once the dermerger has been completed.

recommendation from a "buy" to a "hold". BAe is also being mentioned as a possible bidder for Fokker, the troubled

Dutch aircraft-maker. Sears, the retailer, firmed 12p to 97p after announcing the sale of Saxone and Curtess shoe shops to Facia, the fast growing retail chain headed by Stephen Hinchcliffe. Only last year Facia acquired the Freeman Hardy Willis, £11.7 million. The group is currently looking for a buyer for its Hangers business. Last year shares of Ferguson reached a peak of 351p.

Confirmation of a profits setback left Dalgety 2p easier at 413p. Pre-tax profits in the first six months fell from £60.9 million to a hottom-of-therange £47 million. The decision simply to maintain the 8.5p dividend and the news



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May 925-924 Jul unq	Brent 15 day (Apri	May
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that restructuring charges will now be carried through to the second half caused a fer raised evelrows. A 30 per cent leap in Britisl

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Airway's third-quarter pre-tax profits to £104 million and as encouraging view of prospect failed to impress the City. The shares ended the session 19p down at 502p, with brokers becoming increasingly concerned about rising costs.

Profits for nine months have grown to £534 million with brokers forecasting £580 million for the full year. Bardon firmed Ip to 40p

with the speculators still look-ing for a bidder to emerge. Those mentioned as potential suitors include Camas, down lp at 83p, and RMC Group, ip off at £10.21.

Vodafone fell 6½p to 237½p on learning that Cellnet, a rival mobile phone network operator, was planning to cut call charges. Cellnet says the move could lop as much as 30 per cent off bills. The move is expected to intensify the current price war. Celinet is owned by BT, down op at 356 p ahead of figures tomorrow, and Securicor, unchanged at £16.20.

The announcement of a major reorganisation and job losses lifted Amstrad 12p to 187p. About 150 jobs are set to be shed, mostly at the group's headquarters in Essex. Plans are also afoot to rationalise the Amstrad Trading and Amstrad Direct divisions to costs and improve

competitiveness.

Quality Software Products
continued to lose ground after last week's profits warning, dropping a further 27p to 383p. ☐ GÎLT-EDGED: The slide continued, with losses stretching to more than El at the longer end. Dealers said the falls reflected weaker overseas bond markets. Certainly, the recent fall in yields is now starting to unsettle investors.

In the futures pit, the March series of the long gilt tumbled £13/16 to £1082 in heavy trading that saw 96,000 contracts traded. In the cash market, Trea-

sury 8 per cent 2013 tumbled shorter end Treasury 8 per cent 2000 dropped E1732 to

□ NEW YORK: Shares on Wall Street continued Friday's decline and by midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 19.87 points lower at

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Closing Prices Page 32

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WMI
A LESS than pristine set of
results from WMI, the waste
management company, has
left shareholders reeling.
WMI has never come close to
realising the promised 20 per
cent growth rate, nor has it
matched the original 582p flo-
tation price. Initially, it prof-
ited from the brief fashion for
"green" stocks, but the shares
are now beached, some 250p
below the offer price.
Yesterday's results fol-
lamed a familian access of

which the company took a £123 million charge, should help to alleviate some of the

BA's flying costs

control, and no one knows that better than British Airways. The world's most profitable airline had all its ducks lined up in a row with revenues, load factor and yield all showing comfortable increases. But even BA cannot afford to be complacent, and, as if to cock a snook at the management for its bravado, employee costs shot up in the third quarter. Add to that higher selling costs, a pension revaluation and increased rents, and BA's operating profit grew less than 3 per cent in

the last quarter, causing the shares to slide. The reaction is excessive but it highlights the extent to which BA is exposed to rising costs. During the recession, BA made deep cuts in operating costs, but as the market picked up, the company found itself exposed. Customer service is an area where an airline

AIRLINE costs are notoriously difficult to cannot afford to be seen to be understaffed and BA has beefed up employee numbers. A high level of variable costs not only means more smiling people in navy blazers but more commission and discounts to travel agents as the passenger numbers increase. In response, BA needs to target its fixed administrative overhead as aggressively as it

once cut operating costs. Depsite their hi-tech image, airlines cone with huge volumes of paperwork, and an operation as large as BA has an army of 1,000 staff dealing with ticket accounting. The laborious process of matching tickets and checking for fraud is one that could be outsourced, along with other administrative functions. By keeping its nose to the ground rather than in the air, BA could really cut

Dalgety shares are trading

on about 19 times future

carnings, a hefty premium to

the sector and much of the

Dalgety

NOTHING Dalgety said yesterday was enough to remove the question mark over last year's £442 million purchase of Quaker's European pet-food business. Even news that £40 million of cost savings will be achieved in full next year, rather than the year after, failed to dispel the gloom Instead pessi

point to a pet-food price war. When Dalgety signed the deal many thought they had overpaid. Yesterday analysts were hunting for signs that they were right or wrong but the company revealed little. The restructuring programme is ahead of schedule

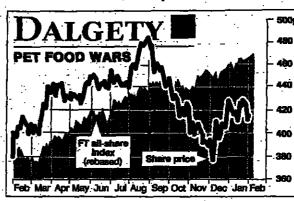
but there is uncertainty that the full benefits will fall through to the bottom line. The competition's reaction to the takeover — to initiate their own cost-cutting programmes — hardly helped to

recovery has already been The interim results showed that Dalgety's origi-nal Spillers business had a factored in to the share price. Dalgety will have to show more than the initial costtough time. This was expectsavings to sustain the rating at a time when prices are ed and a recovery is now under way but some of the remaining operations produce lackfustre results. under pressure. That prove a difficult task.

instil confidence, while the

launch by Sainsbury's of its own-label brand signalled

costly price wars.



lowed a familiar pattern as profits continue to dive in spite of a rise in revenue helped by a series of small acquistions. The company wheeled out the usual excuses, blaming political and financial difficulties in Italy performance. WMI is over-reliant on the Italian market, which accounts for nearly 20

The restructuring plan, for

problems by the end of the year. But with WMX., its parent, having an 80 per cent stake, the needs of private shareholders are unlikely to be top priority. For the time being. WMI's shares will continue to trawl the gutter.

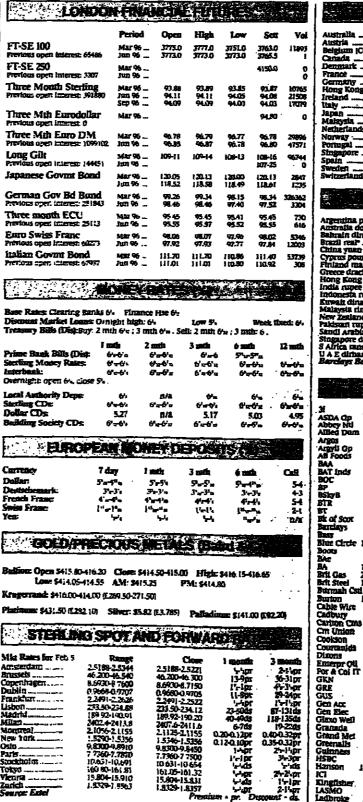
Property derivatives.

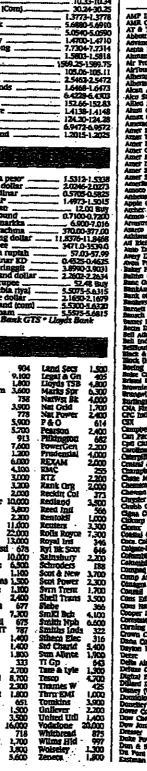
NEVER a year goes by without another attempt to create a property futures market. The last serious effort ended with a minor scandal and considerable egg on the face of London Fox, the former futures and options exchange, but that is not a reason to denigrate the proposed Real Estate Index Market (REIM)

mous need for an investment product that injects liquidity into the physical property market. Shares in property companies are not a useful proxy, in part because they are overly affected by senti-ment towards equities but also because shares are as much a punt on management as bricks and mortar.

A property futures contract would theoretically mirror the market directly, allowing the purchase of a contract to gauge his exposure without the intervention of an expensive management team, or payment of an agent's commiss

There are problems, how-ever, that will still hamper creation of a liquid market. Property is not as volatile a market as equity shares. Absence of frequent trades in the underlying bricks and mortar means that evidence of movement in values is patchy. straining the credibility of any index. Moreover, scarce information means that sentiment tends to move one way, leaving the REIM working group look impressive, but unless they are prepared to back words with cash, the new market will not









Taking over at Equitas

BELEAGUERED Lloyd's

names, whose Lime Street "head office" has been sold to a German property fund, can only hope that good luck runs in threes. Equitas, the company being established to reinsure the Lloyd's 1992 and prior liabilities, has appointed the redoubtable Gisela Gledbill as company secresel. Gledhill, a barrister educated at Vienna and London universities, joins Equitas after three years at Wellcome, which was taken over by Glaxo last year. She went to Wellcome from Consolidated Gold Fields, which was taken over by Hanson in 1989. On this form, is Equitas in line for a takeover?

PR job

THE questionnaire for PRWeek's fifth annual salary survey of pay and perks within its profession is illuminating. Boxes in which to tick basic salary start at £12,000 and run up to £100,000 plus. In the section "What percentage was your last salary ine", there is a space to tick 30 per cent, and there is a box to tick if you have had three or more salary increases in the past year. As for how you rate job satisfaction, respondents can go for "downright exploited" if so inclined.



Train spotters

AFTER the problems that have halted the Government's privatisation of the "Misery Line". I have to report a case of high dudgeon on the Metropolitan line which is bemusing commuters to the City from the stockbroker belt of Northwood. The New Scientist's Feedback column recent-ly reported seeing two announce-ments outside Northwood's ticket office "with" an explanation in brackets

for the slow witted". They were "08.00 Baker Street — trip failure (a safety brake type of thingy)", and "08.05 Watford - crew incomplete (driver off)". Northwood's ticket of-

fice is not amused, and the latest message on its otherwise friendly board reads: "Due to false allegations that have been made in a recent edition of The New Scientist magazine about train information given at this station, no further information will be given until we have received a full apology from the edi-tor of the magazine". City types on Northwood's platform can't wait for the next train, or the next edition of The New Scientist

Running on empty

IAN LANG, President of the Board of Trade, faced every signatory's nightmare vesterday. The dapper Minister was poised to sign a memorandum of understanding between Britain and China onautomotive matters at a ceremony at Lancaster House when the pen ran out of ink. He had been handed a Parker fountain pen from the Board of Trade's "pen set" used for DTI signing ceremonies which (temporarily) let him down. However, as to be expected of a Minister of State, Lang immediately reached into his breast pocket for his own fountain pen to complete his

side of the bargain.

Cable lays out the cash but fails to home in on success

Pipeline TV's high hopes are unfulfilled.

Eric Reguly looks at why

here's little doubt that cable company execuuves woke this morning in a worse mood than usual. Call it resemment borne of envy. The record interim profits expected today from BSkyB, the satellite television broadcaster, has only reinforced the lack of success in their own industry. BSkyB, which is 40 per cent

owned by News International, essentially in the same business as the cable companies.
They all supply programming
— ranging from Live.TV to the.
Disney Channel — to paying
substribers across the land. The difference is that BSkyB which dominates program-ming and has not been saddled with billions of pounds of construction expense, is making a fortune while the cable companies are mired in debt and losses

John Foley of Convergent Decision Group, a broadcast-ing research boutique, said: "One has to look at cable as the channel tonnel project of the TV industry. The payoff might not come until the next

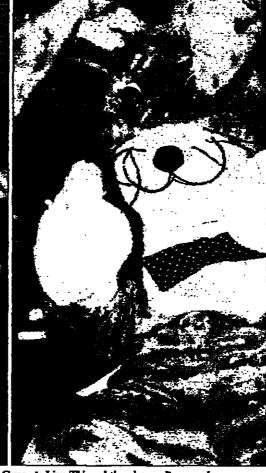
To say that cable companies are in trouble is no exaggeration. The share prices of the seven cable companies that were floated in London and the US last year have rarely risen above their issue prices. In recent weeks, several American investors, motably funds run by American Express, have bailed out pushing ond largest cable company, was floated last June at 137p. Its shares recently slipped to 85½p and are now trading at

have no earnings, pay no dividends, are less than half, way shrough a £12 billion construction programme, and are proneers in a new industry, the City has 'had a difficult time valoing them. The share fall even further David Miller, finance director of General Cable, said: "No one knows if they re cheap enough to buy now.

The root of the problem is the dismal operating figures.

After three years of energetic shovel-and-spade work, cable homes in Britain and North-ern Ireland. But only one in terrible service. "We have not





David Montgomery, left, and Kelvin MacKenzie, behind Mirror Group's Live TV and the channel's news bunny

five of those homes subscribes to the TV charmels on offer. Cable telephony has had somewhat more success, with one in four taking the service. Even the most optimistic cable executives are unhappy with the figures, especially since they have shown little year. Nynex's cable-TV penecases, they just disappeared.

tration, for example, has been stuck at less than 20 per cent prices down to new lows. since late 1994. The consensus Nynex Cable Comms, the sec-now is that cable penetration and largest cable company, rates in Britain will never reach levels found in America, where two-thirds of homes in franchised areas take the service. Last year, the cable industry was saying 50 per cent cable-TV penetration was realistic. They have since downgraded their forecasts and would be delighted if the level reached 30 per cent in the short to medium-term. What went wrong? To be

five years old and, until recently, has been more concerned with ripping up streets than gaining customers. Nonethe-less, no one in the business thought that the numbers would look this bad.

Dan Somers, the executive chairman of Bell Cablemedia. the third largest cable com-

done a good job of delivering our product to our customers," he said. "It's an industry problem. We have not met customers' expectations." Indeed, cable has become synonymous with bad service. The companies generated ill will from the start when they were seen to dig up streets haphazardly, sometimes killing trees water supplies. Then, in many

One customer said a flyer oromoting the service popped through his letterbox two years ago. He has never been contacted since and does not even know how to reach the cable company. Others have complained about aggressive marketing, inaccurate bills, failure to set up direct-debit accounts properly, failure to mail out literature such as Cable Guide magazine, general rudeness and lousy pro-Group's Live TV with its topless darts, news bunny and the soap, Canary Wharf, has not been everyone's idea of dazzling programming.

Expense has been another problem. The basic cable service costs about £15 a month but viewers who want BSkyB's premium movie and sports channels have to pay around £35. Viewers who receive the

direct-to-home satellite service pay about £10 less per month for the premium packages. which is another reason why BSkyB is performing better than its terrestrial brethren. BSkyB subscribers, however, have to pay £200 or more for the satellite dish and decoder. ome cable companies, General, Bell Cable-media and Videotron

among them, blame BSkyB for their lack of progress. They have complained to the Office of Fair Trading about BSkyB's practice of "bundling" channels, which means that subscribers have to pay for several channels in order to get the one or two they do want. The complainants want their customers to be able to buy individual channels a la carte. Mr Somers thinks that scor-

ing a victory with the OFT and developing alternative programming will boost the into offer more flexibility to our customers in terms of their choices," he said. Tackling BSkyB, though, will not be easy and not everyone wants to. TeleWest and Nynex, the two largest players, are happy with the programming supply deals they struck with BSkyB. In the meantime, the indus-

try faces a make-or-break year. Unless the penetration

"churn", or disconnection rates, go in the opposite direction, the task of raising debt to fund construction, acquisitions and day-to-day operations will become increasingly difficult. There is talk that some American and Canadian groups have read the riot act to their cable subsidiaries in Britain: New managers are being appointed to shake things up. Nynex and Bell Cablemedia have recently replaced their chief executives.

The cable companies plan a vigorous effort this year to improve customer service. Mr Somers, for one, has insisted that every complaint reaches his desk. The companies will also launch a £12 million national advertising campaign in the spring to raise awareness about the programming choices available and to stantially undercut BT.

In the coming years, they will try to introduce so-called broadband services such as video-on-demand, Internet access, and home shopping and banking. Their message will be that a single cable can provide any electronic service you can imagine. "This is a ten-year game; we don't have to get it right just now." Mr Miller said.

But there's a good chance all this extra effort won't give the able industry star status. BSkyB is getting bigger, notably on the sport front, a fifth terrestrial channel is coming and, more importantly, so is digital terrestrial TV.

Within a few years, the average residential customer will enjoy a wide choice over how to receive programming, and cable will be just one of



UK consumers shifting to self-indulgence

ers would do well to consider a quick career change. Up and coming entrepreneurs are running sports centres, restaurants and hotels, travel agencies, cleaning firms, colleges and nurseries. We are spending proportionately less on consumer durables and more on a mixture of self-indulgence and self-

Spending on services al-most single-handedly kept growth going in the latter part of last year, but the business and financial services field, the usual engine of this sector, is no longer the only star performer. Spending on education is soaring, as it is on all types of leisure activities and, of course, gambling. Yes, nobody can ignore the ubiqui-tous National Lottery in any analysis of how the British spend their money.

The rise in spending on intangibles

course, turn out to be a temporary phenomenon. Various readings them to oil the confidence have strong-

the recovery a reluctance to this decade. Henley expects splash out on big-ticket items, hardly surprising given the squeeze exerted on disposable income through higher taxes, low pay rises and servicing the considerable debts still lingering after the 1980s spending spree. This may change over the coming year as large chunks of money fall into people's pockets from utility rebates and building society interest rates fall, and the housing market begins to

ly suggested

throughout

Even then, spending is likely to vary from one product to another. After all, British households already own what seems to be regarded as the minumum level of creature comfort for a modern society. The 1996 edition of Social Trends finds that 97 per cent of British households have a colour television set, 89 per cent a washing machine, 77 per cent a video recorder. and 67 per cent a

recover (fingers crossed).

microwave.
Without the allure of technological change and ever more outrageous gadgetry. some of these areas will soon be close to saturation. But one sector that should continue to thrive — and has already underpinned retail

sales during the recovery—
is computers. This is understandable since, to date, only
that this nation of shopkeep24 per cent of households have a home computer. In Tony Blair's brave new Labour world of surfing the superhighway, we had all better get wired up.

The two other growth

areas in spending, high-lighted by Stephen Radley, of The Henley Centre, are the need for self-improvement and the need to hire household services in twocareer families beset with "time-poverty". Both of these are phenomena of Britain's flexible labour market, an anodyne economic concept that represents the deepest imaginable change in the way we live.

Spending on education and training has been growing strongly since the 1980s, but is accelerating at an extraordinary pace. Henley research suggests that spending grew 27 per cent between 1984 and 1990 but

The income gap markabie between skilled given that refull-time earners then a conand those who help sumer

that period. wheels will widen

> spending to rise more than 60 per cent. Increasingly, we are dipping into our own broaden skills, supplement the existing schools system with extra lessons for our children, and paying for our toddlers to go to playgroups and nursery schools. Spending on household

five years of

services rose 26 per cent between 1984 and 1990 and 1995. Heniey expects further growth of nearly 21 per cent by the end of the century as two-earner households buy the services that allow them working. The income gap between skilled, full-time earners and those who help them to oil the wheels will widen further, but both sets of people suffer from increased stress. One group is beset with increasingly long hours and a ferocious pressure to perform, the other by a poisonous drip-feed of insecurity and uncertainty.

For both, the antidote seems to be more spending on recreation. Escapism is a major ingredient in spending decisions nowadays. And, after all, a good meal, a weekend break or a game of football cannot be repossessed if you find yourself out of a job.

Sarah Bagnall on a high street empire-builder

Sheffield retail king thrives on a diet of high-speed expansion

Stephen Hinchliffe, Shef-field's king of the high street, has achieved something remarkable. In 18 months he has built, from scratch, one of the country's largest privately owned retail.

empires. Facia, in which Mr Hinchliffe owns 100 per cent of the ordinary equity, set out on its acquisition spree in August 1994, snapping up famous high street names at the rate of one every two months. The result is a retail group with about 900 stores and 7,700 employees generating sales of more than £300 million a year — statistics that earn it the title of Britain's second largest independent retailer.

The company's cache includes Sock Shop, Torq, the costume jewellery chain, Red or Dead, the fashion and footwear company, Salis-bury's, the luggage and hand-bag group, Contessa Ladies wear and Oakland Menswear. Last August he acquired, from Sears, 245 shoe shops trading under the banners of Freeman Hardy & Willis, Manfield and Trueform. At the weekend Facia bought a further batch of shoe shops from Sears, paying an undisclosed sum for 134 Saxone and Curtess stores

and £10 million of assets. Mr Hinchliffe says: We have built up a business of critical mass. I wouldn't miss an opportunity to acquire another business if it came along but if one doesn't appear there is plenty of organic growth...A former director of Sheffield United Football Club who still owns a 15 per cent ability of Mr Hinchliffe and



Hinchliffe snapped up famous names at a furious rate

City over Facia's rate of expan-round in the prevailing trad-sion. Some analysts have ing environment. But Facia questioned how Facia funds its. has bought at the bottom of an rapid expansion. Mr Hinchliffe says the fund-

ing is straightforward. He amassed a sizeable fortune from his previous business incarnations, which together with short-term bank debt helps Facia finance its acquisitions. The short-term borrowings are then repaid out of the cash the businesses generate. Some analysts question the

raised a few eyebrows in the director, to turn the businesses economic cycle and the prices paid were only a fraction of the value the chains possessed in the heady days of the 1980s.

Pacia has the added advantage of acquiring the retail operations without having their massive overheads. Vendors of the retail brands often say the chain is loss making at the point of sale but this frequently comes after they have made hefty contributions stake, Mr Hinchliffe has Gary O'Brien, Facia's finance to group overheads. Stripping main private and in control.

ing to group profits.

privately held and Mr Hinchliffe is the sole shareholder bar Murray Johnstone with a small preference shareholding group to reveal the nitty-gritty of its operations.
Facia completed its first full

year of trading on January 6 so outsiders will have to wait until about April before they are privy to the group's finan-cial health. This is when Mr Hinchliffe expects to file Facia's first set of accounts at will be pleasantly surprised by what we have achieved," he

Mr Hinchliffe, 46, trained as an accountant but began in marketing, then moved into property and computing before branching out into retailing in 1985. He played a major role in the buy-in/buyout of Wades department stores from Asda and ended up with a 40 per cent holding in Wades, which was sold for £7.3 million in 1987.

Two years later, Data Memories, his computer company, was reversed into Lynx Group. He received a 25 per cent holding in the company, which grew rapidly until he left under a cloud in 1992. At the same time, he abruptly parted company with James Wilkes, the engineering group of which he had been chairman, in the middle of a hostile takeover bid by Petrocon.

It is not surprising that Mr Hinchliffe now wants to re-

ament is issued in compliance with the listing rules published by London Stock Exchange Limited (the Application has been made to the London Stock Exchange for the whole of the ordinary share capital of Treatt PLC issued and currently quoted on the Unitsted Securities Market of the London Stock Exchange to be admitted to the Official List of the London Stock Exchange (the "Official List"). It is expected that admission will become effective and dealings in the ordinary shares of 10p each of Tream PLC will commence on 12th February 1996.



Introduction to the Official List Panmure Gordon & Co. Limited

of the whole of the issued ordinary share capital of TREATT PLC

SHARE CAPTAL

12,500,000

6th February 1996

£1,250,000 ordinary shares of 10p each 9,597,979 £959,797.90

Copies of the exempt listing document may be obtained during normal business hours on any weekday (Saturdays and any public holidays excepted) from the Company Announcements Office, London Scock Exchange, Capel Court Entrance, off Bartholomew Lane, London ECZN 1HP (for collection only) from the date of this notice up to and including 8th February 1996 and from the date of this notice up to and including 20th February 1996 from:

Panmure Gordon & Co. Limited New Broad Street House 35 New Broad Street London ECZM INH '

Treat: PLC Northern Way Bury St. Edmunds Suffork 1P32 6NfL

Issued and fully paid

GOOCI MOTITIES. (And why it is one.)

It's not every day you can talk about a genuine medical breakthrough.

But maybe today, February 6th, is the exception.

This morning, two leading pharmaceutical companies – Pharmacia and Upjohn – are announcing to the world the merger of their operations.

This will mean that two pools of specialised medical talent now have the opportunity to work together for the first time ever.

Resulting in real, tangible benefits in the fight against cancer, AIDS, infectious diseases and many other medical conditions.

This merger is not simply a matter of shared resources, however. It is also about shared ideals.

Our new trademark stands as a symbol for humanity, hope and inspiration.

Values that we intend to apply to every single aspect of the way we do business.

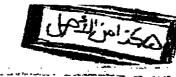
You are surprised to hear such sentiments coming from a global pharmaceutical company?

This is not the last time we'll be surprising you.

You can be sure of that.



Pharmacia & Upjohn



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Spreading the net in the drive for more student jobs

the opportunity in 1996 to employ second year undergraduates for project-based assignments during

MAIL STATE

Thousands of small firms have benefited since Shell Technology. Enterprise Programme (Step) began in 1986, with a pilot scheme in the North East, Last year 1,200 students and companies were brought together. This year, the tenth anniversary, it is hoped there will be 1,300.

Long-term benefits include cost savings, job creation and higher turnover. Last year's survey of Step employers found that more than 96 per cent are likely to take part again. As one employer puts it: Companies like ours have no spare capacity for developing



an age to have initiative and a lively mind." Many firms, realising the value of their contribution, decide to employ a graduate for the first

Students also gain: they acquire skills and experience during the eight-week scheme and realise the career possibilities offered by smaller companies.

Payment is £100 a week, the employer and Step paying half each. The scheme is supported by the Department of Trade and Industry, which is currently invest-ing £500,000 over three years.

This year Step planners hope to achieve national coverage, filling gaps in Scotland such as High-lands and Islands. They also want to locate more companies, around Manchester, Birmingham and North Yorkshire, and to have a programme in the area of every training and enterprise council, local enterprise company and Busi-

"We hope to raise the profile of the programme among small businesses, and show the result it can have on their bottom line," said Liz Rhodes, director of Step, who can be contacted on 0171-936 3556. There is a great demand by students for work placements, and

SALLY WATTS

Helping small firms to Step forward

Sally Watts assesses

the Shell-sponsored scheme that allows

businesses to focus on

product development

ne of the big attractions of the Shell Technology Enterprise Programme (Step) opportunity to develop a sound idea. This was the case ten years ago when Roger Pannell, an elec-tronics engineer, set up Global Communications (UK) near Maldon. Essex, to make components for satellite television.

At first there was only himself and his wife, Helen Crossley, the company secretary. Now there are 25 employees in design, marketing and business, plus sub-contractors. Most of the products are exported. In 1994 the firm took on two Step students. One, studying production engineering, implemented manufacturing software.

The project for the second — John Cooper, a UMIST student of electrical and electronic engineering -was to take forward Global's noted ADX black box, which upgrades and transforms an old satellite



receiver into a modern one. Some 500,000 have been sold, John designed a box that allowed viewers to receive programmes from two different satellites, whereas previously they were limited to one block of channels. Now a graduate. he is back with Global as a design engineer. "We were impressed with the quality and quantity of his work," says Mr Pannell. "I would recommend Step as an economical way of developing an idea ... held up for want of time and money."

After employing a Step student for the first time last summer, the

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DETECTIVE

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Hughes Whitlock has signed up its first full-time graduate. The company manufactures instruments that detect bacteria and measure surface contamination, ranging

from radio isotopes to microbes.

Zoe Davis, 22, a biological science student at Exeter University. was supplied by Step for eight weeks to assist in developing and refining a protocol for using the bioprobe to establish the level of contamination in water. Part of her remit was to experiment with the reagent needed to get the best performance from the instruments. Ms Davis's achievement was to

move the protocol forward; it is now the established method within the company for checking the level of microbes present in water.

Doreen Whitlock, who has run the company since her husband, Gerald, died, believes that both the business and Ms Davis benefited from the Step programme. "It helped us decide to take on our first staff graduate - a young male microbiologist - and we are very pleased, "she said. "If a vacancy exists when Zoe graduates, we will seriously consider offering her a job too, and we hope to take more Step students."

Mrs Whitlock believes the project

made Ms Davis aware of the possibilities and pressures of working for a



Summer success story

WHEN Oliver Askaroff, managing director of Simplantex Health Care, took on a student through Step last summer, he could hardly have realised the effect this would have, both on his business and the student, Caroline Todd (above). "We were startled by what she achieved," he says (Sally Watts

The company, at Eastbourne, East Sussex, is a brand leader in the manufacture, sale and distribution of accessories for electric scooters and wheelchairs for children and adults. Ms Todd's project was market research the first of its kind — to discover

people. She organised a questionnaire, arranged mailshots, conducted interviews and won publicity on television and radio. She also chose the designs and designer.

Now Simplantex is investing £185,000 in a manufacturing unit for a range of clothes for wheelchair-users. In three years, the company expects to have already been filled.

Ms Todd, a 21-year-old history undergraduate at Birmingham. won the 1995 "Most Enterpris-

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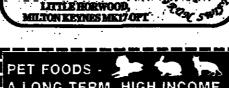
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THEATRE : Another star of Hollywood hits the British stage: Molière beckons Elizabeth



■ THEATRE 2 Whole Lotta Shakin' is a whole lotta nothing, but Jerry Lee Lewis's songs still pack a punch





■ THEATRE 3 Polemics come up fresh from the 18th century in a revival of Holberg's Erasmus



RECITALS

Epic journey complete: the **Emersons** are magnificent to the last in the **Reethoven quartets**

Matt Wolf meets film star Elizabeth McGovern, making a British stage debut in The Misanthrope

Thoroughly modern Molière

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barely graduated from high school in 1980 when Robert Redford cast her in a supporting role in his Oscar-winning Ordinary People. A year later the nominee for her performance in Milos Forman's Ragtime. Since then the cinema has been less than kind: does anyone remember The Bedroom Window or Johnny Handsome? But the stage has offered McGovern a home. For much of the 1980s she was a regular fixture on and off Broadway.

This week, the London resident her husband is the BBC producer Simon Curtis - makes her British stage debut ("Don't remind me," she

laughs) opposite Ken Stott in a new version of The Misanthrope. The Molière play. adapted by Martin Crimp. London to find out what New York has long known: an erstwhile teen discovery can hold her own as a classical actress.

"I had always had a atre," says McGov-

ern. The 34-year-old actress is talking during her lunch break backstage at the Young Vic. where she was summoned less than a week before rehearsals to replace Rachel Weisz (who, ironically, forsook the produc-tion to co-star in her first Hollywood film). "Even though I was working in movies, I was always auditioning for the stage. Either I was getting rejected, or doing awkward performances and learning by them. I feel

"It's taken me a long time to learn how to be an actress on the stage. But performance I do is going to be brilliant, but I'm certainly a lot better than when I started." Indeed, Mc-Govern spent a year at New York's Juilliard school — Kelly McGillis and Kevin Spacey were classmates — only to give up the course in order to do

She is the first to admit that her screen start was a heady one. As the showgirl Evelyn Nesbit in Ragtime, McGovern dominated reviews amid a cast featuring no less a legend than James Cagney, then aged 81. The film itself was nominated for eight Academy Awards, though McGovern missed the ceremony because she was in New York filming the forgettable Dudley Moore comedy. Lovesick.

After such beginnings, was a fall inevitable? McGovern addresses the point with characteristic lack of pretension. "I say with great amuse ment that I've been slowly working my way down my whole career." she smiles. Though I don't really feel that way: I actually feel very proud of my career." Since moving to London four years ago she has done two BBC2 Performance films of plays produced by Curtis: Tales From Hollywood (1992), with Alec Guinness, and The Changeling (1993) with Bob Hoskins, which was also directed by Curtis. Prior to both, adaptations of Somerset Maugham's Ashenden spy stories.

The Misanthrope, updated by Crimp to contemporary London and directed by Lindsay Posner, reconceives Molière's Celimene as Jennifer, a glamorous American film star arriving in Britain to promote her newest project. "The challenge was to create a modern woman

out of a 17th-century

the character as "Madonna-esque" in ways. "She's not a rock star per se, but she has absorbed the Madonna message. She's comfortable with her own appetites, with that facade of I'm in control of my career, my choice, my sexuality, my life'. She projects the in-vogue way to be that Madonna taught us; she's a 25-yearold who has taken all that very much to heart."

Does the character tally with the sought-after McGovern of years past? "In some ways she is what I would have been if I could have someone who knows how to play the game, go to all the right parties, and embraces the game and loves it I never really could manage to do that, so I'm having fun doing it on stage and in England."
That McGovern never gave herself

over to the Hollywood system - "It was always much more alluring to go off and do plays" - is partly due to her background. Though Los Angeles-born, she was raised in an environment "about as far from show business as you could get. Her father was a law professor at UCLA: her mother teaches high school English. A film career, she says, was never inevitable. "I didn't grow up watching movies and absorbing



them like mother's milk. Somehow, we existed in a world that - even though it was in LA — was far from the Hollywood people have percep-tions about, especially in England."

Now a mother herself - she and Curtis have a two-year-old daughter - McGovern has shifted her focus to domestic concerns in the family's Hammersmith flat, far from a Hollywood that in any case calls less often than it once did. A spate of movies over the years has hardly shown the actress to best advantage: Sergio Leone's Once Upon a Time in America, for example, playing Robert De Niro's girlfriend: or She's Having a Baby, which wasted both her talents and those of Kevin Bacon. Everybody emerged badly from Volker Schlöndorff's chilly and pon-derous 1990 film of *The Handmaid's* Tale, and the best of her recent films - Steven Soderbergh's underrated King of the Hill - was seen by virtually no one. Her latest feature,

Wings of Courage, is a 3-D venture. "I'd love to be offered a good part in a movie, believe me: I don't feel cavalier about it, says the actress. But while some might balk at keeping such a distance from the industry that launched them. Mc-Govern sounds genuinely pleased with the unexpected path her life has taken. Having found myself in a

family with a child, I feel stronger and more grounded. I suppose, as a person, which makes me freer to enjoy my work.

I really think it would be wise not to write Hollywood off; I worked hard for ten years and just to abandon it is not something that interests me. But most important beyond making a living is working on material that I find exciting. Without a doubt it means as much for me to be working on this play now with these people as it does to do a big Hollywood movie."

● The Misanthrope previews from Thursday and opens next Tuesday at the Young Vic (0171-928 6363)

Bluegrass served up with a twist

ALISON KRAUSS's reaction to wirming four of last October's Country Music Association awards, including female vocalist of the year. must have been one of elation - and bemusement. A young veteran of bluegrass music who made her first album at 14, she suddenly found that her music of 100 per cent natural goodness had drawn in a huge audience desperate for health food. Krauss's platinum-selling Now That I've Found You: A Collection will shortly complete a year on both the American country

In Britain there has been a quieter momentum of appreciation, leading to an almost sold-out, eight-date British tour and this London show.

warmed by New York singer-writer Marcus Hummon, another of the artists helping to stir some fresh flavours into the Nashville stew. Arriving band, Union Station, Krauss seemed every bit as nervous as on her awards night and did not speak for four numbers. But when she did, one sensed the audience giving her a collective hug. They were re-

Union Station is full of the

Alison Krauss Festival Hall

bluegrass, such as the mandolin, banjo, stand-up bass and sometimes two guitars in addition to Krauss's nimble fiddle. But the choice of material which has helped to open Krauss's door to the main stream is as likely to include an old rock or pop tune from her Illinois upbringing as any rustic roots piece.

Hence, in among songs by such favourite writers as Nelson Mandrell and her own band's Ron Block, she will toss such unlikely delights as Bad Company's Oh Atlanta or the Foundations' Baby, Now that I've Found You, beguilingly restyled. The co-writer of that pop gem, John MacLeod, was in the audience to accept Krauss's humble introduc-

The group encored with Lennon and McCartney's I Will, the hall glowed with bonhomie, and one gave thanks to the world of awards

PAUL SEXTON

Timbre of maple

tionally released album was for Blue Note, and because she was appearing at Ronnie Scott's, it might seem obvious to classify Holly Cole as Canada's newest jazz singer. From the first dramatic notes played by her pianist. Aaron Davis, with one hand on the keys and the other damping the strings inside the piano, it was clear as her set began that she's a singer beyond category. and that part of her originality is the way she has integrated her own eclectic style with her accompanying group. Many jazz singers have been most effective interpreting current pop songs. Instead, Holly Cole has creatively exploited the

delicate to the brassy, faultless intonation and charismatic stage presence. : From time to time her quartet fell into the role of a conventional jazz rhythm section, though her choice of tempos and carefully shaded arrangements meant even old standards like Que Sera Sera took on new life. But for most of the evening Cole and her group created a range of music that travelled far be-

territory between jazz and pop,

with a vocal timbre from the

Holly Cole Ronnie Scott's, Birmingham

her recent album, based around the work of Tom Waits, took on a country feel, others, including Invitation to the Blues, had overtones of Kurt Weili

Although cabaret songs depend on a sense of the dramatic and Cole invests all her the overall effectiveness of her work is, nevertheless, a team effort. Waits's Train Song took on eerie effects from Kevin Breit's slide guitar and Breit's versatility extended to some equally effective backing on

mandolin and zither. Holly Cole is already well known in Canada, with her own Internet site. Her Birmingham date was the last of only three appearances in Britain but she should equal her Canadian following on this side of the Atlantic very

ALYN SHIPTON

YOU might call this the return of the pedantic son. Rasmus Berg is back from college and insisting that everybody calls him Erasmus Montanus. Returning to the family farm. he addresses the farm hands in Latin, syllogistically proves that his mother is a stone, and pushes his luck by announcing the world is round. The 18th-century playwright

and Latin professor Ludvig Holberg, hailed in his native Norway and Denmark as their Molière, is worth unearthing. The Gate recently brought us Jeppe of the Hill. Now BAC gives a second lease of life 10 this Greenwich Studio Theatre production about young Master Berg enraging the yokels.

Sharp points unhappily blunted by a dull cast

languages, there is a startling timelessness in this portrait of a youth pushing away his ty and fighting for his radical opinions. Holberg beat Den-nis Potter to the post by a couple of centuries in depicting a college boy dropped back into his rural community.

Moreover, Erasmus Montanus proves to be a polemical play of ideas and a drama of Erasmus Montanus BAC, Battersea

David Peacock) turn the tables and bully the swot. With a hint of The Crucible, the superstitious villagers cry heresy on Erasmus's Copernican science. The Deacon, beaten in Latin disputation, tries to label Erasmus as demonically possessed. Holberg flicks between perspectives, ridiculing the

him a mobbed missionary of the Enlightenment, or sug-gesting a devilish amorality in his educated arguments.

Greenwich Studio Theatre is a commendable fringe company, translating and staging little-known classics on a small budget. The downside is that the cast is not top-notch. Andrew Muir's Erasmus has the condescending precious-ness of the scholar, but is too cold. There is no struggle in

urges him to sacrifice his school of thought. The set, with sawdust, timbers and the odd cartwheel, has a DIY olde worlde" look. Find a designer.
Julian Forsyth's adaptation

wisely replaces the Deacon's desperate out-takes of nowobscure grammar-book Latin with common phrases: dulce et decorum et al. Elsewhere, however, the contrasting speeches of pedant and peasant might be more idiomatieally colourful. His joint direction with Margarete Forsyth could also be sharper. Ultimately, while the Earth may not be flat, one cannot say the same of the production. Still, this play is a discovery.

KATE BASSETT

Misses between the hits

yond jazz. Some songs from

IN 1958, Jerry Lee Lewis, the known for hits such as Great Bails of Fire, took a 14-year-old bride, Kate Bassett writes. To aggravate matters, the girl responded with horror, television and radio stations boy-cotted his music; Lewis vanished off the face of the earth. Or so it seemed.

Already a none-too-cute guy. Lewis started seriously hitting the hottle and popping pills, especially after the deaths of his son and mother. Still, the man made something of a comeback, via country

Whole Lotta Shakin' Belgrade, Coventry

Yes, this is yet another rock

star's life story recreated on stage. It is hard to believe that director Simon Usher really thinks Todd Wm Ristau's thin script is worthwhile theatre. The staging looks rather scrappy with a piano here, some amplifiers and mikes there, a rear steel balcony and photographs of Lewis in the wings. Jerry Lee ain't even dead yet, so the story ends in mid-air. But heck, the songs hindari. But there, the songs are what matters — as the star, played by Billy Geraghty, keeps telling us.

Actually, Geraghty's stage skills are also saving graces.

His performance makes this performance makes this

show roll. Geraghty, who played Buddy Holly for three years, makes a passable Lewis with his slicked-back hair shaking loose. He also plays his white plano with real pizzazz, streaking his thumbnail up the keys and jazzily quick-slamming chords, sometimes hitting the high notes with a heel or buttock.

The thumping beat get monotonous as the songs pile up, while the snapshots of Lewis's life cut cursorily between his late and early career (Christopher Egan plays the young Lewis). The quieter country numbers and songs infiltrated with resurfacing religion are the most interesting.

The show's portrait of Lewis

is pretty simplistic, underlining the pull between his strict religious roots and his going to the devil, tempted by the swinging blues clubs in his small hometown. One might presume the lesson to be earnt is to burn your pop record collection, for therein lies Lucifer. But this piece sketches Lewis's relationships so quickly, sometimes risibly so, that we have scant chance to feel sympathies or take moral stands.

Lewis's attraction to Myra the minor (Kate Wilton) is unexplored, making their marriage seem unremark-able. Sull, Geraghty's achievement is to convey seedy arrogance and still exude the cool and charisma that got the audience jiving in the aisles.

Images of the Western Lake

The revival of the colour print in contemporary China



BRITISH MUSEUM

Until 11 February 1996 Monday - Saturday 10-4-50 Sunday 2.30-5.50 Admission free London WC: Recorded information 0171-580 1788

A lively hoe-down for Beethoven

RECITALS

AS THE Emerson Quarter's complete Beethoven cycle gained momentum, it became increasingly apparent that the final pair of concerts would prove the most absorbing. Such stimulating players as the Emersons were always bound to be most exciting in the composer's late quartets, but there was also the feeling that as the series — seven concerts over ten days — progressed, they communicated with the audience more directly and with greater intimacy.

Of course, no performances of this music on this level could fail to enthral. The late quartets are among the profoundest of musical utterances: they were radical in Beethoven's time and still have the power to bewilder and amaze. Their complexities cannot simply be explained away in terms of the safe haven

Wagner and the late Romantics provided. Heard chronologically, as the quartets have been on the South Bank, there is also the mystery of Beethoven's return to relative simplicity in the final work. Op 135. It has often been seen as a conscious reintegration of the language Beethoven had just dismantled. But not only did the

Emerson Quartet Queen Elizabeth Hall

Emersons' witty performance of Op 135 shed objective light on its transcendental predecessors, it also suggested that Beethoven was indifferent, and was looking back with a shrug.

Such bold statements as Beethoven made call for bold performances, and that is what the Emersons gave. Although their "big" tone had, at times, been overpowering in the earlier works, it was surprisingly well suited here. Their sound is based on four different musical personalities working together.

In Op 132 (A minor), which opened Thursday's concert, they evoked the hushed mystery of the beginning and threw themselves into the fierce lines than follow, but not at the expense of the movement's soaring lyticism. The central Heiliger Dankgesang had rapt intensity.

The B flat quartet Op 130 (just out on the Emersons' new Deutsche Grammophon disc) was the highlight of both evenings. The players relished the ambiguity of the opening, dispatched the Presto with virtuosity, and brought real affection to the German dance. Their Grosse Fuge had vigour and attack, and an unmistakable aura of expressionist madness.

After quartets in five and six moveents, Friday's concert opened with one in seven - Op 131 in C sharp minor. The Emersons caught all its many facets, but the searching lines of the slow, concentrated fugue and the stamping rhythms of the finale were especially satisfying. The more conventional Op 135 in F was no less compelling, and the lively accents of its finale suggested that these American players had stepped out of a hoe-down.

Finally, they offered the alternative ending to Op 130 that Beethoven wrote, after Op 135, to replace the Grosse Fuge. its Classical sheen is a little disturbing but it provided a perfect coda to this most memorable cycle.

JOHN ALLISON

Thursday 8 February 7.30pm Royal Festival Half BBC Symphony Orchestra

Gianluigi Gelmetti conductor Uto Ughi violin

Passacaglia Webern Dvořák Violin Concerto

Prokofiev Symphony No 5 All seats £10 and urreserved. Children, students, unemployed and over 60s £5 Phone 0171 960 4242 to book your tickets.



VISUAL ART 1

A barrage of hot colours is presented in a show of new **Bridget Rileys** at Waddington's



The Indonesian artist Heri Dono presents Oxford with an ironic view of life in

his homeland

VISUAL ART 2



VISUAL ART:3 Glimpses of an enigma-laden private world are on show in Rose Warnock's

new London show



TOMORROW Liverpool learns

to exploit the market for pop nostalgia with a little help from a new musical

Regiments of colour in close combat

GALLERIES: At 64, Bridget Riley shows no sign of moderating the visual

demands of her art, says Richard Cork

6 If her early

work was

cold, the new

paintings

are hot 9

obody could accuse Bridget Riley of pallid English reticence. Ever since she launched her first assault on our retinas, her work has never been afraid to dazzle and overwhelm. Riley is a fierce painter, flouting the stereotype of the "gentle" female artist with eye-bending verve. The toughness of her work has become leg-endary and in her 65th year she has

no intention of dropping her guard. Walk into her exhibition of recent paintings at Waddington Galleries and the visual barrage hits you at once. Hung at a disconcertingly low level, these high-keyed canvases pulsate with intense colour contrasts. Their surfaces are immaculate. Flat.

Like many abstract artists before her. in the High Modernist tradition to which she still proudly adheres, Riley is fascinated by the parallel between

orderly and calculated to a hair's breadth, they be-tray no sign of the artist's own markmaking. The paint is applied with impersonal precision. Sensuous brushwork is not permitted to seduce the viewer, or impede the clean, hard-hit-

ting energy gener-ated by Riley's particles of form. They demand an alert response, and have no patience with the notion of a faint-hearted viewer.

Not that the Riley of the mid-1990s is quite as combative as the young artist who emerged 35 years ago. In that eruptive early period she restricted herself to black and white. Once viewers became ambushed and ensnared, they found themselves crushed by converging walls of rectangles or pulled into fierce whirlpools. In the Tate Gallery's Fall, painted in 1963, undulating lines rush down the canvas like an unstoppable flood. Most of those precocious, singleminded paintings are painful to look at and demand a formidable commitment from anyone who stares at them for a time.

The Rileys at Waddington do not' require quite so much perceptual stamina. The harshness of black and white has been replaced, here, by an almost profligate richness of colour. If her early work was cold, the new paintings are hot. Riley is unafraid to allow puce, orange, scarlet and maroon to play prominent roles. Even though Riley moderates them with light green, deep blue and bleached yellow, the overriding mood is one of Mediterranean radiance.

So how dependent is Riley on the stimulus of luminous surround-

many of the exhibits are inscribed with the name Bassacs, where she stays in France. Executed between April and July of last year, they are all paler than the paintings and less busy in their congregation of forms. Strong uprights dominate each image, albeit sliced by diago-nal intruders. They are reminiscent of trees, but Riley is enough of an abstractionist to make me wary of reading landscape references into her work. The light-suffused planes floating in these gouaches insist on a life of their own.

parallel between painting and music. She particu-Poetics of Music, the lectures Stravinsky delivered at Harvard where he lauded the benefits moving within the limits of a narrow frame. The idea that "music provides a sensual ex-

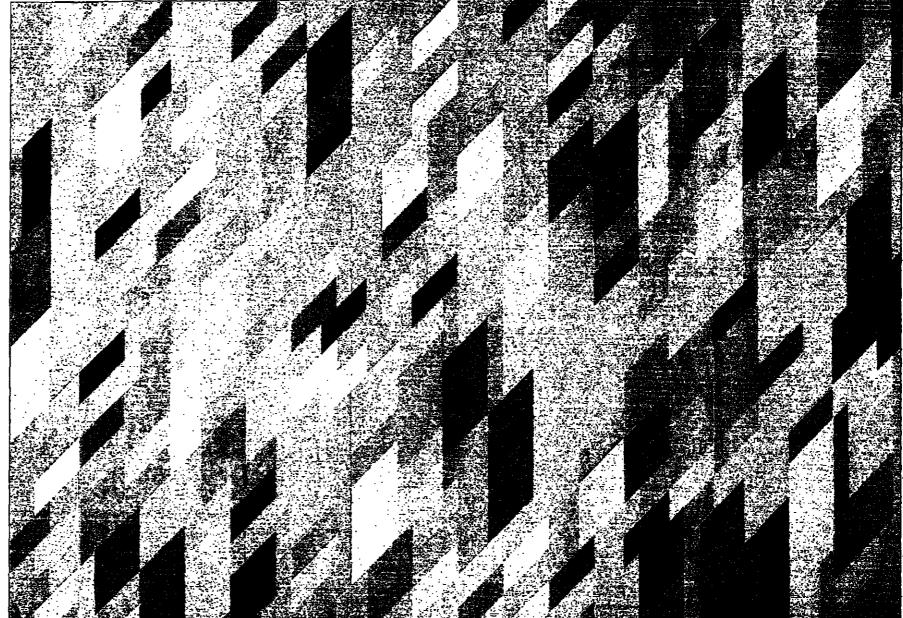
perience by the organisation of a limited range of formal means notes, scales, intervals and their possible relationships" has a direct bearing on Riley's own hopes and ways of working.

But that does not mean she shuts herself away, refusing to be aware of visual stimuli outside the studio. Robert Kudielka, who has written extensively on her work, recalled visiting Munich with Riley on a bright March day in 1972. Leaving the great collection of Rubens in the Alte Pinakothek, they wandered across to the Hofgarten and sat at a tree-sheltered table laid with a white cloth. "It was about midday," he remembered. "A waitress brought us glasses of wine which sparkled yellow and green. The light grew brighter and stronger every minute. Bridget stopped and exclaimed: Look at it! Just look at it!"." There was, Kudielka went on, "nothing to look at in the proper sense of the word, no particular

enveloping event." Those final words apply very well to the experience on offer at Waddington. Standing in the gallery. I found myself surrounded by the vibrancy of the colours marshalled so exactingly on the wide canvases. The titles Riley has

incident or object to be observed. It

was rather as though we were sitting in the middle of an all-



Vertical versus diagonal: Bridget Riley's Reflection II, 1994, exemplifies the way in which her strong uprights are counterbalanced by precise slopes of colour

Attendance, From Here, Reflection and August - are free from any dependence on a specific, observed location. They do not, however, rule out the notion of an artist respond-ing to, and meditating on, a more general apprehension of time and place. For her, looking is a central activity and she can trace it back to childhood years in Cornwall.

While Barbara Hepworth was nourished by the intensity of her reaction to the landscape around St Ives, the young Riley went on clifftop walks with her mother and discovered the intoxication of looking. She was lucky: Cornwall has a special ability both to sharpen and cleanse the perceptions of the artists who live there. But she also formative experience, and apply it blurred. Riley retains her passion

consistently to her work as a More, perhaps, than the majority of artists, Riley has always been highly disciplined; she imposes rous constraints on herself. In

the Waddington exhibition, they are most apparent in the meticulous organisation of the images. Each picture is a patchwork of enough to rule out the inclusion of a single renegade curve. The proliferation of these segments generates a powerful sense of restless dynamism across the surfaces. They hover on the edge of shimmering

But, despite her admiration for Seurat, whose exquisite Le Pont de Courbevoie she once carefully copied, they never become broken or for hard definition. Her recent work is as crisply structured as ever, and within its spangled complexity she ensures that every unit of form retains a clear-cut

The longer we look at her paintings, though, the less confident we become about finding our bearings within their bristling fac-The diagonal movements. which seem so dominant at first, are counterbalanced increasingly by the strength of upright, pillar-like presences. However forcefully they seem to be pierced by the onal shaits, they stay erect. And then we notice how ambiguous they really are. Riley never lets us decide which forms are solid. She plays with possibilities contin-

ually, in an almost teasing manner.

What starts out resembling a tree may well become a slice of sky. The airiness of these new paintings is very striking. It suggests that Riley wants more and more to

break up the rigidity of her pictures and let them breathe. Sometimes, in her earlier canvases, she would pack them so tightly that a distinct feeling of claustrophobia ensued. Now, by contrast, the overall mood is more expansive. Hedonism has become a potent force. and Riley seems more prepared to let us establish our own relationship with her work. She is, perhads, entering into a g

of relaxation. The play of dappled

light is omnipresent, encouraging

us to feel blessed by its capacity to soothe. Riley is an admirer of his "great shout of joy". These new paintings seem suffused with the heat and luminosity of the south. and invité us to discover an awareness of wellbeing.

Even so, I cannot imagine Kiley ever likening her art, in Mansse's which to rest from physical fatigue". However many changes her art may undergo in the future, it will always insist on the ability to be bracing. A good Riley does its best to invigorate. It purges us of lazy ways of seeing, and invites us to scrutinise the world with renewed clarity, wonder and zest

© Bridget Riley at Waddington Gal-leries, Cork Street, London WI (0171-437 8611) and Karsten Schubert, Charlotte Street, London WJ (0171-631 0031), until Matisse, and what she describes as

Speaking out by lying low

The Indonesian Heri Dono has

brought his art - and his protest - to England, Sacha Craddock reports

been painted khaki. It is lit to appear simultaneously light and dark: an artificial twilight. Huge, bulbous tree-figures balancing on relatively delicate artificial legs amble across the gallery. Our view of the figures is like a child's: we have to look up to these strange, oversize wire-wrapped figures, with their emphatic chests and red lights on top. Military camouflage softens the gallery ceiling. Army boots, helmets and guns suggest a dangerous presence

Blooming in Arms, an installation by Heri Dono, a 35- year-old artist from Indonesia. is the culmination of a short residency at the museum. Dono is well-known in Japan, Australia and his own country, but this is his first exhibition here. During his stay he has made drawings, collages and watercolours (a selection of them is also on show in the library at the Institute of International Visual Arts in London). He has also given a performance in Oxford and lectured at London University's School of Oriental and African Studies. Throughout his time in Britain he has

in the dusk.

 tion of how to make critical, political art in Indonesia and survive. The installation at Moma is laden with irony. The military regime in Indonesia simultaneously encourages people to plant trees as part of a "green" policy and allows the destruction of forests in Sumatra, Kalimanjan and Irian Jaya.

repeatedly addressed the ques-

A large gallery upstairs at the Museum of Modern Art in Oxford has The figures false legs are a reference to landmines; the militarism, of course, reflects the presence of soldiers in the country's daily life.

Not that the connection between the message and intention behind a work and its success as art is necessarily automatic. For Dono. as he says in the exhibition catalogue: "What is important is to keep the quality of the ethical problem in art. Sometimes the political idea is good but the painting is not so good."

It was while being taught at art school in Yogyakarta, on the island of Java, that Dono first came across the perennial argument between followers of the "traditional" and the 'modern"; between an often artificially imposed concept of national identity, on the one hand, and the wholesale embrace of Western artistic values on the other. Dono is fascinated by tradition — his performance in Oxford was based on traditional puppet theatre - but maintains that it is no longer effective or possible for him to work in any

single mode. Dono lives, through choice, in a village away from his country's main centres. By using complicated but apparently naive methods, and by seeming simple in his approach, he creates plenty of opportunities to show his work. "I have to use tricks," he says. "I am an artist and I

have to use my brain." He explains how geographical distance from Jakarta, the capital, drunken local policemen, and a reliance on impromptu happenings have allowed him to keep one step



Blooming in Arms, Heri Dono's Oxford installation

ahead of those who would clamp down on his work. His 1994 piece. Fermentation of Minds, for instance - in which rows of cast heads were stuck behind rows of school desks, nodding in mechanical unison to the sound of chanting - was first seen in public when he simply put it out in front of his studio in the village. It is a matter of surviving, so that he can continue to make his art. rather than have his shows shut down. In Indonesia it is not unusual, he says, for an artist to be told an hour before an exhibition is due to open that it is not going to open at

The directness of his work has a lot to do with the diversity of its audience. Not only is there a multiplicity of cultural backgrounds and languages in his own country, but Dono acknowledges that a Western audience will have quite different visual expectations. By using a variety of media, from performance to painting and sculptural instal-

lation, and by mixing local

saure and comic-strip narrative with a full-frontal Modernist style, he manages to cut through the particular and strike a chord of collective

♦ Heri Dono Blooming in Arms as the Museum of Modern Art, Pembroke Street, Oxford (0)865 722733) and Institute national Visual Arts, Kirkman House Whitfield Street London WI (0171-636 1930) until Feb 11

ometimes it seems self-ABOUND THE GALLERIES & evident that artistic tal-ent runs in families; ☐ IT IS surprising to find sometimes it is hard to feel so that all Christa Gaa's trainsure. Certainly the talent of

Julian Bell must come from somewhere, and it cannot be because her work looks so English. Her great devotions. entirely coincidence that he is the son of Quentin Bell, grandson of Vanessa Bell, apparently, were to Chardin, Bonnard and Morandi, but great-nephew of Virginia Woolf and great-grandson of they might just as well have been to Sickert and William Leslie Stephen. He proves to Nicholson. She came to Britbe a brilliant but unpredictable painter. He is evidently well schooled in the art of the past, and his work teems with references and echoes. He is a master of present-day Impressionism (The Mobile Phone), chic Nen-Classicism (Accident in the City), elaborate chiaroscuro (Candaules, after Herodotus) and other, more experimental styles. Perhaps the most astonish-

ing work is Crucifosion, which shows soldiers in aguely modern uniforms dicing for the garment at the foot of the cross, seen en plongée from Christ's point neither irrelevant nor of view. A variety of dramatic impertinent. concepts and complete technical mastery make one won-der what Bell will do next; but it is bound to be

Francis Kyle Gallery, 9 Maddox Street, W1 (0171-199 6870), until March 7

primarily by what they do, or ing was in Germany,

ain in 1980, married fellow painter Ken Howard in 1990, and died in 1992, when in her 50s. The memorial show at the New Grafton Gallery If Currin were showing at covers the whole of her brief painting career, and consists mainly of watercolours and gouaches, with a handful of oils. They are about half-andhalf landscape and still-life, and although the landscapes are attractive, they do not have quite that special touch of the still-lifes: for once the reference to Morandi, greatest of modern still-life painters, in two of the titles seems

New Grafton Gallery, 49 Church Street, Barnes, SW13 10181-748 8850), until Feb 17

☐ THE work of John Currin raises, in an extreme form, the question of whether artists today are to be judged

by what they say about what they are doing. What Currin. an American painter now in his early 30s, actually does is to paint slightly primitivelooking, slightly kitsch images in a broad, cartoony style. These often show lightly clad bimbos romantically entangled with bearded older men: the vision falls somewhere between Thomas Hart Benton and Donald McGill.

a gallery like, say, the Portal, it is doubtful whether any of the critical establishment would take him seriously. But instead he is showing at the ICA, and talks up a storm about himself and his know ing defiance of contemporary convention. Critics (in America, at least) have rushed in to supply comparisons with everyone from Tiepolo to Manet to Magritte Brits may well suspect that McGill is nearer the mark. Institute of Contemporary Art, The Mall, SWI (0171-936 3647), until Feb 18

☐ AS A painter. Rose private world, where miniature mountains rear into

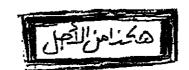
irregular Chinese shapes. columns of smoke rise undisturbed to the unthreatening clouds, water meanders through the landscape and trees (of which there are many) seem constantly on the point of transforming themselves into something else. There are sometimes people in these pictures, mild-eyed and melancholy, as beins lows-eaters. Some may find the pictures doving. others see them as slightly sinister. But the skill and the sense of painting history are clear enough: this is a world that Altdorfer would recognise across the centuries. In the rear gallery downstairs there is, as usual, an historical show which in some way

complements the new work. This time it is of Graham Sutherland's haunting early etchings, made in the 1920s, when he had first been awakened to the wonder of Palmer's visionary years. Whatever the judgment of posterity on Sutherland's lat-er work, the magic of these tiny prints triumphantly survives changes of lashion.

Jason & Rhodes, 4 New Burlington Place, WI (017)-434 1768), until Feb 17

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

David Storey's legendary epic The Now playing Changing 9 WEEKS ONLY Duke of York's Room Theatre 0171 836 5122 / 9837





CHOICE 1

Funny to see you: Lee Evans opens a six-week West End season VENUE: First night

at the Lyric Theatre



■ CHOICE 2

Deborah Harry joins the Jazz Passengers in swinging Camden VENUE: Tonight at the Jazz Café

controversial movel, Jude the Obscure, and the other balcony play,

Coward's Private Lives Geraldine Alexander, Martin Marquez, Simon Robson and Abigall Thair make up the

Northcest, Stocker Road (0392 54853). Jude Tonghi-Fri, 7 30pm, Sat, 8pm, mat Thurs, 1 30pm. Physis: Feb 12-16, 7,30pm, Feb 17, 2 30 and 8pm. (5)

WOKING: Henry Goodman plays Freud, with Tim Potter as Salvador Daft,

I farry Johnson's surreal, double award-whining Hysteria. Acclaimed as the funnest senous play in London during its Chestmas run New Victoria, Possocia Are Centre

(01483 76) 144). Toraght-Sat, 8pm, mais Wed, 2.30pm and Sat. 4pm. 🔊

Barblean Contemporary Brash
Tapestry (0171-638 4141) British
Museum; Irrages from the Western
Laise revised of colour print in
contemporary China (0171-636 1555)
National Gallery Partitings from
National Trust Houses (1071-747 2895)
National Portrait Gallery Materials
and Methods of Portjal Soujourae
(0171-308 0055) Tate. Pictuang
Blackness of British Art (0177-887
8000) V & A. Jaar Art from India
(0171-938 8500) Whitechappel
Emil Noide (0171-522 7888)

El O ISABELLA! A shape-changing house, stones that become real at night, and a pot of basil (thank you, Mr Kaalsy: the Alson Andrews Co present

their latest collaborative piece

LONDON GALLERIES





■ CHOICE 3 Hardy's Jude the Obscure . goes on stage

in Exeter VENUE: All this week



■ MUSIC

Salzburg finds yet another way to honour its most famous son: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart -

LONDON

PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA: The exceptionally talented young An Gil Shaham pairs his competinol conductor Hugh Your, and the orchestra or Beethoven's Violin Concont Tomata's programme opens with his overture, Canolan and closes with Schelius's powerful Symphony No 5 Feathvol Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171 960 4242), Tonight, 7 30pm. 🖨

LEE EVANS: Opening night for the nabor-boned comodian, in the West, End for a severel, season Lyric, Shaffesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5049) Tongrit, Torn Theri Mon-Fri, Apm; Sul, 6pm and 8 30pm

JAZZ ARCUND TOWN Internation JAZZ AROUND TOWN Improsonal supremos Gino Laine and John Dankworth return for a brief season to even in the cabaret setting of the Green Room Meanwhite the Jazz Possengers and Deborah Harry turn up in Camden with their potent combination of music and comedy commission of the traditions of great big bands five the Art Ensemble of Chicago and Louis Armsteing's Hot Five Green Room, Cale Royal, Regent Street, W1 (0171-437 9090). Tonight Feb. 24. 9 (Sprin No per Sun or Mon. Jazz. et M. 155. Parlana. MRI 1071-015. Cadé 15a Parkway, NW1 (071-916 6060) Doors open 7pm 🗟

□ BEN HUR Performance Theatre, award-winners for their Three Men in a Boat tackle Roman brushly and racing in last chariots Moreover Ben has a secret — she s a her Warehouse, Dingwall Road, East Croydon (19181-680 M660) Tuo. 6 30pm, Wed-Sat, Born, Sun, Spm. ☐ CAIN: Lord Byron's biblical Mystery gritke Abel's offening, it never quito catches hire in this revival. Pit. Barbican, Sifk Street, EC2 (0171-

638 8891 Tonight and lomonow 7 15pm 🔕 ☐ COMMUNICATING DOORS. Angela Thome reopens Ayddooum's ingenous time-travel play, fleeing from a vengebul enemy waithe doors of a hotel that take her forward and back a

Savoy, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888) Mon-Sat. 7 90pm, Wed, Sat. 3pm. (5) ☐ THE FIELDS OF AMBROSIA American musical with book and lyinds by Joel Higgins, who also stars as a state executioner who falls in love with the woman set to be ins next "client Music by Martin Silvestri Aldwych, Strand, WC2 (0171-416 6048; Mon-Sal, 7 45pm mas Wed and Sat, 3pm

IN THE GLASS MENAGERIE Same au The Wilds a menureriel. Sam Mendes's radiant production Zoé Wanamaker and Claire Skimier pley mother, deughter, Bert Walden is Torn. Comedy, Parton Street, SWI (0171-369 1731) Mon-Sat. 7 30pm, Sat. 3pm

◆ FATHER OF THE BRIDE PART II

(PG): Steve Martin laces the patter of trny leet Bland comedy sequal, with Diane Keston and Kimberly Williams, Director,

Kesion and Kimberly Williams: Director. Charles Shyer MGIBs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772) Chelsea (0171-352 5096) Octoors: Kensington (01426 91466) Leicester Sq (01426 91563) Marble Arch (01428 914501) Swiss Cottage (01426 914 098) UC) Williameys (0171-792 3332)

KATIA ISMAILOVA (18) Sight but seductive Russian tale of threated

passion, crima and punishment director, Valeri Todorovski MGM Plecaellly (0171-437 3561)

NEW RELEASES

Bittis (OL. The Unchestate of the Age of Endightenment opens its star-studded spring senes, Mozar's Vienna Frans Bruggen conducts, with soprand Nancy Agenta and forbepainst Ronald Brautigam Broadcast live on BBC Radio 3 FM St George's, Brandon Hill (0117-923 (259) Tonight, 7 30pm.

BRISTOL. The Orchestra of the Age of Entichtenment coens its star-

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

ELSEWHERE

and the Good Company resumes is not of Pride end Prejudice. Frances Cuks. plays Mrs Bennet, Jonathan Ceci plays ner long-suffering husband, and Comela Hayes O'Heiffry and Mark. Healy play Elizabeth and Darcy: Sue Bonnesse director. Pomeray directs Opera House, Water Street (01298 72190) Tonight-Sat, 7 30pm, mats Thurs, 1 30pm and Sat, 2 30pm

EXETER: Mike Alfreds's excellent Method and Madness company offers two more great classics. Hardy's most

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in Londor House full, returns only
 Some seets available
 Seets at all prices

☑ AN IDEAL HUSBAND: Trumphar return for Peter Half a production of Wildo's drame of political sleeze and scandal. The star cast includes Manne Shaw, Arma Carteret, Pennie Downle Theatre Royal, Haymarker, SW1 (0171-930 6800) Mon-Sat, 7 45pm.

☐ JOLSON The hights and lows of the singer with with a monster ego. Brian Contey betts out the songs enjoyably and Sally Arm Triplett is an impressive Ruby Keeler Victoria Palece, Victoria Street, SW1 (0171-834 1317) Mon-Sat. 7 30pm;

s Wed and Sat. 3pm 🖏 ☐ THE LONG AND THE SHORT AND THE TALL: Man, Arden and Bert Kurouk in revuel of Willis Hall's celebrated jungle-war drame; produced by Counterpoint Theatre Co, to follow her emovable The Streets of Dublin ry, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-

BAC, Lavender Hd, SW11 (0171-223) 2223) Previews tonight and opens Previews torright and opens ow, 8 30pm Until Feb 25 N THE SHAKESPEARE REVUE: A EJ THE SHAKESPEARIE REVUE: A wetty evening of song, dance and sketches to do with William S Assembled by Christopher Luscombe and Melcolin Mickee Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (0171-636 9867) Mon-Fri, 8bm, Sat, 8,30pm; mats Wed, 2,30pm and Set, 5 30pm

El STANLEY Antony Sher plays Stanley Spencer, the planter whose desired connections with women were odd Pam Gerns's new biographical. National (Corlesioe), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928-2252), Today, 2.30 and 7, shorn (E.)

LONG RUNNERS ☐ Blood Brothers Proems (0171-857 1044) . . ☐ Crazy for Your Prince Edward (0171-734 8951) ☐ Dead Guilby Apolio (0171-494 5070) Guisty Apolo (II 71-494 505)
E Feme: The Musical Cambridge (0171-494 5053)
Les
Misérables: Palace (0171-434 0999)
E Summet Boulevand: Adelphi (0171344 0055)
The Woman in
Black: Fortune (0171-835 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre. Notting Hill Coronet (§) (0171-727 6705) Odeon Series Cottage (01426 914098) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) Screen/Belter Street (0171-935 2772)

 SABRINA (PG). Businessman Hamison Ford talls for the chautleur's daughler, Julia Ormand Updated Cinderella story just does not work.

Constant Control of Control

Contro Orector, Sydney Polacic Empire (2) (0171-437 1234) MGMs: Beker Street (0171-996

 SEVEN (18): Unsettling and off-beat terial killer timiter, with Morgan Freema and Brad Pitt. Director, David Fincher. Emplre (0171-437 1234) MGMis-Chelsee (0171-352 5096) Tothenhem Court Road (0171-358 6148) Trocadero () (0171-434 0031) Trocamo (g. (1771-434 01426)1 4666) Odeoras: Kensington (01426)1 4666) Meczzantine (§. (01426 914696) Plaza (0171-Collage (01426 914096) Plaza (0171-437 1234) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) UCI Whitmieys (§. (0171-792 3332)

comedy-drama about black women's men problems. With Whitney Housion and Angela Bassett. MGMs: Futhern Road (5) (0171-370 Middles Futhers Road (2) (017.1-370 2536) Shuffesbory Avenne (017.1-836 6279) Trocadero (2) (0171-434 0031) Odonis: Kensington (01426 91456) Series Cottage (01426 91459) UCI Writteleys (2) (0171-792 3332) Warner (2) (0171-437 4343)

Mozart's second homecoming

Stanley Sadie

visits a new celebration of

Salzburg's favourite son

weryone who has been to Salzburg knows the Mozart l birtholace museum. the Geburtshaus, by far the most popular composer muse um in the world. Fewer will know the city's second Mozart museum. Until now this has been a decidedly modest affair, but since his birthday on January 27 it has become a serious rival attraction.

The new museum is in what called the Mozart-Wohnhaus, or Mozart's Residence, in Makart-Platz on the opposite side of the river from the old part of the city where he was born. The family moved there in 1773 when Wolfgang was 17 and father Leopold had finally decided that they were unlikely to escape from Salzburg and had better make the best of it. They moved to a spacious first-floor apartment in what was then Hannibal-Platz, a part favoured by noble families.

There was room here for Leopold to trade in musical instruments and to take in resident pupils. The building was known as the Tanzmeisterhaus; it had been the property of a French dancing master earlier in the century. and the main hall, the Tanzmeistersaal, was still

The half of the house lived in by the Mozarts was destroyed by bombs in 1944. The International Mozart Foundation had had designs on it long before then, but the owner eventually sold the site for development and, in spite of opposition, a six-storey office block was put up in the early 1950s. Mercedes cars were sold from the Mozart house.

Tow nice it would be if every

ven most of them — v

vindicate the marketing rag of the Barbican's "Great Orchestras of the

World". It has to be said that only the

presence of their guest soloists really

lifted the playing of the Orchestre de

Paris, under Semyon Bychkov, to

The outstanding event of their two-day visit was Maxim Vengerov's

performance of the Mendelssohn Vio-

lin Concerto. With every sinew of his

body extended to seek out and stretch

the work to its expressive limits,

Vengerov fused passionate involve-

ment in every passing second with a

poised nobility of overview. There was

so often a heady new excitement in the

anything like the expected standard.

performance in the series - or

The old ballroom, the Tanzmeistersaal, is now part of the Mozart-Wohnhaus museum But with the approach of 1991, the bicentenary year of Mozart's death, the foundation was able to raise enough funds to buy the office block. Demolition began in April 1994 and the foundation stone of the new building was laid in June. The basic intention was to replicate the original building.

at least at the first-floor level where the Mozarts lived. Broadly, this has been done: the three rooms along the Makart-Platz frontage and those round the corner along the Schwarzstrasse are much as they were.

instruments. The theme of the museum is The Tanzmeistersaal ballroom is the point of entry: used The Mozarts and their Salzburg Context 1773-80"; its mo-

> CONCERTS urgent; something

recent years, this room is now

restored in pale green and

greyish white (the colours that

careful scraping of the layers

of paint suggest were used in Mozart's time) and has the

famous Mozart family portrait

by Johann Nepomuk della

Croce as well as showcases,

subtly lit, with exhibits chiefly

concerned with Mozart works

dating from his years in the

house - such as the Haffner

Serenade and the early piano

concertos - and the games

played by the Mozarts in the

house and its garden. There

are also a variety of keyboard

that could hardly be said of the UK pre-Orchestre de Paris/Bychkov Barbican

miere of Gilbert Amy's Trois scenes pour orchestre, commissioned by the French Government and the Orchestre de Paris to celebrate

tif is an obelisk. Two are

apartment, which shows let-

his years in the house (and

broadcasts excerpts over the

Leopold, has two large obe-

These are simply exhibit

Amy's 60th birthday this year. Competently enough written, these symphonic scenes (the staging of an imaginary opera plot", according to the

fifth room publicises the New Mozart Edition, prepared by the. International Mozart Foundation, and shows a map of Mozart's travels: the visitor can illuminate any of the journeys and can see appropriate scenes on monitors while listening on the handset to matching music. A still more appealing use of modern technology cantes in the shife show room, where half a dozen projectors, some with revolving mirrors, some with zoom, offer a carefully of ordinated and visually beguit ing account of Mozart and Salzburg, in six languages, with appropriate music.

ome museumgoers might feel, not unreasonably, that the opthe house that Mozart lived in are only half acknowledged. There is not much here to suggest the man or his personality; curiously. Leopold Mozart emerges perhaps more forcefully than his son. One is more conscious of artful de sign than of atmosphere or of the house as locus gentil. But the new museum does appeal rather more than does the Geburtshaus, in its recently refurbished design, where the Mozart family rooms are unbelievably sparse

Last month's opening ceremonies were partly an inscribed on the doorway. A: acknowledgement of the many and generous patrons who giant glass one, bearing lettering in black, dominates the made the new museum possible, and especially the Japafirst front room of the Mozart nese, notably Dai-Ichi Mutual ters and operatic music from lafe, who played a central role in the funding. The artists at the opening events included individual handsets); Mozart's the Berg Quartet in a taut, tea and sugar box is here too. rather nerve-edge perfor-The next room, dedicated to mance of two Mozart string quartets and Berio's Notturno. Trevor Pinnock and lisks, enclosing books from his own collection; the corner the English Concert gave a rousing performance of Hayda's Missa in tempore room is dedicated to Nanneri. rooms, but the next, a large belli that thrilled the audience, one with an alcove, is furand the Vienna Philharmonic nished, lightly, with pieces of was conducted by Nikolaus the period - in some degree Harnoncourt in Beethoven

an evocation of Mozart family and, of course, Mozart THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY performance of Stravinsky's Rite of Spring. There were those bright woodwind characters, shamelessly coarse brass: and there, too, was the enthusiasm and vitality.

Its musical discipline and understanding — and, of course, that of Semyon Bychkov — did not extend to Mahler's Second Symphony: This was an episodic caricature of a performance, edgy and ragged, and ennobled only by the committed singing of mezzo-soprano Jard van Nes, soprano Elizabeth Norberg-Schulz, and the London Symphony Chorus.

HILARY FINCH

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vanation on Victor Hugo's novel from Claude Lelouch, with Jean-Paul

Desphara (j. 171-638 8891) Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) Odeon Kensington (01426 914666) Warner (j. 10171-437 4343) WITHINAIL & I (15): Revival of Bruce

Roberson s querky cuit comedy, with Archard E. Grant and Paul McGann as would be actors miserable in the Lake MGMs: Futhern Road (0171-370) 2636) Shaftesbury Avenue (6279) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) rue (0171-836

CURRENT **◆ DANGEROUS MINDS (15)**

CINEMA GUIDE

ims in London and (where sicuted with the symbol •) release across the country

MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096)

Odeons: Kensington (01426 914666) Swiss Cottage (01426 914098) West End (01426-915 574) UCI Whiteleys (THE FLOWER OF MY SECRET (15). lender drama Irom Pedro Almodova

8402) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) Screen/ HRI (0171-435 3366) ◆ THE INNOCENT SLEEP (15): ◆ THE INNOCENT SUREP (15):
Ruper 6 passes sees a returder to shouldn't Creaky British trinler, with Michael Gambon.
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Curzon Maytair (0171-369 1720) Gate (a) (0171-727 4043) Renoir (0171-837

◆ HEAT (15): LA detective Al Pacino

■ HEAT (15): Do descrive Air recribing to card: Robert De Nino's crooks Excellent epic come drama from emferdirector, Nachael Mann (1714-98-3323)

MGMar: Futhern Road (0171-370-2636)

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et (0171-935 9772) Fulfham Road (S) (0171-370 2638) Trocadero (S) (0171-434 0031) UCI Whiteleys (S) (0171-792 3332)

WAITING TO EXHALE (15): Crude

Saved by the fiddler orthetta at least gave individual sections their head, as did the final bite of the bow as it Mendelssohn sound

tracked the ascents and descents of the opening movement. There was a lucid line of song at the work's centre. And the finale braced itself into new, vital

contours by accents and upbeats which redefined and surprised. Vengerov, who always seems eager to play on and on into the night, gave two rapturously received encores: Kreisler's outrageous Caprices Viennois and Chinois. He made the

composer) bore all the heavy trade-marks of Boulez-style post-serialism.

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 DISPUTES BILL FIGHTS OFF **FOREIGN RIVALS 39**

Injured people have to fight hard for their rights in expensive and tortuous legal actions. But not all claims are as strong as the case study below



Theatre of the absurd: the problems of cost and delay in the field of medical claims bedevil all personal injury cases and expose the system's flaws

· Accidents do happen

huge question mark looms over how the legal system in the year 2000 will be handling people's claims for injuries. Law suits over accidrugs or defective products are among the most expensive and . tortuous in the civil courts. They can also be some of the most emotional. People with devastating injuries find themselves embroiled in a complex legal system which, by its adversarial nature, only adds

to their pain (see right). Lord Woolf, the law lord appointed by the Lord Charicellor to investigate the problems of civil justice and to recommend reforms, wants a change of culture. He has already outlined a series of radical reforms to make the system less lawyer-driven to impose tight time limits on hearings and to make judges trial managers.

sier of six consultation papers. on some of the most intractable problems, including medical negligence, group actions (usually drugs or products) and expert evidence.

The problems of cost and delay bedevil all personal injury cases - but with medical accidents, the system is exposed at its worst. First, it is harder with such cases to establish causation and liability than with any other accident claims. Doctors' insurers - and doctors themselves may strongly contest liability: in many cases, there may be no single identifiable cause of injury as with other accidents. Doctors are also understandably protective of their professional reputations, which they may feel are being wrongly impugned. Further, investiga-

But how should such cases be dealt with in the courts? Frances Gibb on the reforms of Lord Woolf

tions, which require linereasingly expert medical wit-nesses, are costly and protracted All these problems, Lord Woolf said, may be aggravated by distrust and hostility on the part of one or. more of the parties.

With medical negligence

there is also the issue of



funding. Nearly all medical negligence claims - as with claims are successfully settled, "enormous" draw on the pub-

that medical negligence claims cal. The idea is to keep in the year ending 1994 cost disputes out of the courts the health service £125 million. where possible by adopting The total is now thought to have reached £150 million. Of some 12,000 medical negligence cases closed by the board in the year up to March 1994, only 12 per cent were quickly of claims, without successful; the normal success rate in personal injury claims

There is some concern (among the British Medical Association, the Bar Council and Lord Chancellor's Department) that the legal aid scheme funds too many unmeritorious claims. Dr Anthony Barton, a doctor who works with a law firm, points to arguably the biggest legal aid injustice that the legally aided plaintiff does not have to pay the other side's costs if he loses. The risks of litigation are thus tilted in favour of the plaintiff who has nothing to lose, against the defendant (and any insurer) who has nothing to gain but usually incurs irrecoverable expense."

is more than 90 per cent.

Although legal aid is outside Lord Woolf's remit, his proposals will have a knock-on effect for the £1.4 hillion legal aid budget. He was unequivocal about the need for change. There was, he said, a "heavy onus on both the legal and medical professions to find a better way to resolve allega-tions of medical negligence than exists at present".

Sarah Leigh, a specialist medical negligence solicitor who is co-ordinating the work for Lord Woolf in this area, has put forward various pro-AVMA (the Association for posals to make the settling of claims more just and economi-

where possible by adopting agreed codes of practice for handling disputes. This would include record-keeping and reporting of accidents to help hearing. hospitals to dispose more

Smaller claims of up to E3,000, where victims often just want an explanation or apology, could be handled inhouse, by trained hospital "claims managers". The Woolf paper asks if such mediation or in-house settlement should be compulsory for these cases. hen cases do come to trial, the approach should be more inquisi-

negligence and product liabil-ity cases, says: "We endorse the thrust of the inquiry as seeking to reduce litigation costs, improve speed and efficiency." But she is "strongly opposed to a single expert. jointly instructed, determining issues of professional negligence", and to small claims being resolved without a

Whatever the outcome, the question of future funding is critical so that people can pursue legitimate claims, and public funds are not wasted. But above that, Lord Woolf believes there needs to be a change of attitude: first, to develop a culture in which it is accepted that "doctors, like others, make mistakes". Secondly, when a mistake is made, it needs to be swiftly and publicly acknowledged, so victims receive adequate compensation without the need to battle with both legal and medical professions en route.

Legal insult added to personal injury

CASE STUDY!

The bitter criticisms of the legal system made last week by Ron Lipsius, one of the King's Cross Tube station fire victims, were a reminder to Lord Woolf of failures in civil justice which he is trying to

Mr Lipsius compared his seven-year fight for compensation, for hands so hadly burnt that he can no longer earn a living as a professional guitarist, to the trauma of the 1987 fire itself, in which 31 people died including the person with whom he was travelling. Mr Lipsius, now 39, said London Transport (LT) had shown no sympathy, but prolonged his suffering with its unbending opposition. "People were killed," he said, "and they

threw the survivors to the legal sharks."

His case was no worse than many other personal injury claims in the civil courts - and better than some, where liability is not even admitted. But its details have refuelled debate over the proposals so far floated by Lord Woolf for reform. One prominent plaintiff solicitor described Lord Woolf as "naive", and questioned his awareness of the antagonistic tactics of many commercial organisations faced with per sonal injury claims.

Mr Lipsius issued his writ in January 1989. LT admitted liability and Lipsius: "The survivors were thrown to the legal sharks" made interim payments totalling £225,000. But it did not agree any

actual amounts of expenditure. Mr Lipsius was told only in December 1995 that £40,000 for his years of physiotherapy and £21,451 for surgery on his hands had been "properly incurred". Some minor items were also agreed then, such as £50 for the trousers

In January 1995 LT transferred the papers from its in-house litigation department to the City firm Herbert Smith. Howard Watson, handling the case, offered no more than the £225,000. Mr Lipsius's solicitor, Patrick Allen, then applied for a court date and amassed statements from 43 surgical, psychiatric and musical witnesses, including a 62page statement from Mr Lipsius himself. Costs escalated dramatically.

Defendant witnesses included Maxwell Brittain, a musician, who produced a report highly critical of Mr Lipsius's pre-fire guitar playing. An employment expert, Mary Groves, was to testify to Mr Lipsius's ability. in current market conditions, to land a

telesales job. The defendant, meanwhile, paid £500,000 into court. This offer, refused by Mr Lipsius, was increased to £600,000, then to £650,000 on the Friday before the trial's scheduled start. This fell below the lowest of Mr Lipsius's three future earnings

claims, £700,000.

The legal costs were estimated at £200,000.

With £225,000 already paid, Mr Lipsius faced potential financial ruin if he failed to increase that payment. On January 29 he accepted £650,000, to cover all treatment, loss of earnings and all other loss caused by the fire. You just have to settle for less," he said, disappointed and battle-weary, "or go through an incredible amount of stress and may-

be get less."

Costs, for which LT is liable, are estimated at £300,000. Mr Allen denounced the aggression with which the case was fought, saying Mr Lipsius should have been given the benefit of the doubt: "Every case is taken on as a war. The defendants could have settled earlier and saved themselves money.

A spokesman for London Transport said it was "inappropriate" to discuss individual cases but that LT had "always expressed sympathy for the King's Cross fire victims and their families". She added that if Mr Lipsius had thought the settlement unfair, he could have proceeded to trial.

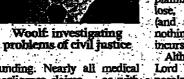
Ian Walker, a partner in the plaintiff firm, Russell Jones and Walker, and executive committee member of APIL, the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers, said insurance litigation is increasingly aggressive. "Insur-ance companies are not there for plaintiffs. They are there for themselves. Some take ridiculous positions on liability and miserly attitudes to damages. Lord Woolf is naive about how the system works," Mr Walker said. "Many insurers fail to apply costbenefit analysis, or are simply incompetent."

Lord Woolf says: "I recognise the present system is unequal. I am not saying I am producing a perfect system but I am making the balance fairer." Mr Lipsius's remarks contrast starkly with the standard verbose discussions about the Woolf reforms: "I was treated as the enemy, the nightmare on the balance sheet. Lawyers fall into this, convincing themselves they are just doing a job."

DAVID CONN



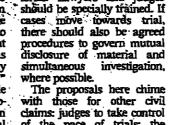
Victims of Medical Accidents)



those over drugs or products

— are pursued with legal aid
because of the excessively disproportionate costs involved. But whereas most accident that is not so with medical negligence cases. It means what Lord Woolf called an

c purse. Sir Tim Chessells, chairman of the Legal Aid Board, told a recent conference held by



torial Lawvers and judges

claims: judges to take control of the pace of trials; the possibility of using a single expert witness, either appointed by the court or agreed by the parties; and a fast-track procedure for claims of up to £10,000 where there is a limit (say £3,500) on costs which can be recouped. The most controversial of

these is the idea for a single expert; and the compulsory settling of smaller claims without a court hearing. Janet Sayers a partner with Kennedys, a law firm which acts for



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THE BAR Council has mounted a furious lobbying campaign to get as many chambers as possible to sign up to its new Pupillage Appli-cation Clearing House scheme (PACH) in time for the February 16 application deadline. David Penry-Davey QC, the chairman of the Bar Council, as been telephoning heads of chambers to press them to join. He describes the response as "very encouraging".

Order out

of chaos

Food for thought

MAGISTRATES in Richmond, Surrey, have been practising the kind of hands-on case management which judges are being encouraged to display. A report in the Richmond 8 Twickenham Times describes how magistrates refused a temporary drinks licence for a parentteacher association party at Sheen Mount School, after police said there would not be chough food. The bench advised Philip Crowther, the man in charge of catering, to discuss his menu with police. When he returned next day and announced that a chicken casserole would be served, magistrates had no reservations about granting a licence.

City slicker

WHICH law firm did City giant Clifford Chance turn to an it found itself sued for C\$1.3billion (£610million) by four Canadian banks which have lost money in the Canary

Wharf bankruptcy? The firm declined to name its lawyers: But the solicitor charged with the job of saving Clifford Chance from writing a very large cheque - the lawyer's lawyer, he could claim to be is partner Michael Seymour at fellow City firm Lovell White Durrant

Hearing aid IF YOU want to hear your

lawyers' voices before you instruct them, try calling a firm such as Lewis Silkin. If you progress far enough into the firm's automatic answering system, you will access a programme where each of the firm's lawyers in turn tells you their name and extension number. Some are very slow and precise. Some hurry. Some politely say thank you. Some try to break the mould with a trendy approach. But perhaps the ones to avoid are those who get the message wrong, and forget to mention their number at all.

Home thoughts

ARE THE judges getting nervous about offending Michael Howard? The National Asso-ciation of Probation Officers (Napo) was given leave to go ahead with its judicial review of training plans only after Mr Justice Sedley asked for an undertaking that they would not be challenging the Home Secretary on grounds of reasonableness. Counsel for Napo, Edward Pitzgerald, told



Penry-Davey: asking

trary to public policy.

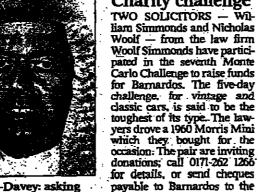
Proper English

DAN NEIDLE and Simone Murray from the University of London Union won the European inter-varsity debate against stiff competition from across Europe. Michael Boots, of 24 per cent on the year of the University of Leiden in before. David James, head of Holland, which also made it professional standards and through to the finals, won the services at the Bar Council,

best speaker award says in Bar News that this is causing an "almost intolerable and its senior partner, Keith and "excessive backlogs and Clark, says." Such was the thus delays". Meanwhile, opquality of the speakers that the ponents of the new scheme panel had quite a heated debate itself to choose the winning team. We were delighted that a continental

final for the first time, although it was somewhat sobering to concede that the most articulate speech was delivered by a Dutch student." Charity challenge

European team reached the



the court that he thought it "questionable" that judges could extract such an undertaking and that it was con-

Chance sponsored the event

Bar work THE BAR'S new complaints

£150,000 to put into place this autumn. The existence of the new system, through which people will be able for the first time to bring complaints of shoddy work against barristers, is likely to prompt more complaints than the current 450 a year - itself an increase says in Bar News that this is strain in terms of workloads" may still seek to force a second ballot or even a judicial review which could delay the scheme

system is expected to cost up to

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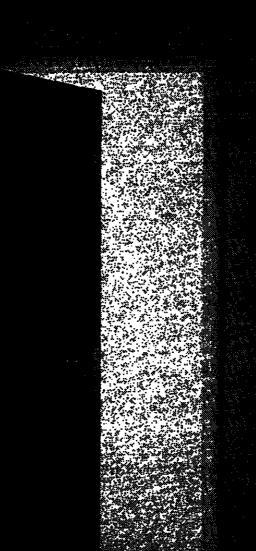
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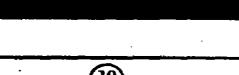
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Frances Gibb reports on the battle to defend London as the arbitration capital of the world

Disputes Bill fights off foreign rivals

the world centre for dustry worth many millions of pounds — is facing challenge. A large proportion of arbitrations involve a foreign company or individual and huge volumes of commercial and international work is generated from the settling of

COUNTR

For two centuries, the City of London's place as the arbitra-tion capital of the world has been unrivalled. But increasingly other business centres in France, Sweden, Holland and the Far

East — are trying to seize a share of the business. Now the industry is fighting back. The Arbitra-tion Bill, at present going through Par-gament with all-pary support, is set to

and the practice of arbitration, both domestic and international. The Bill is the brainchild of Lord Justice Saville, the Court

of Appeal judge who formerly headed the commercial court. Almost single handed, he has rewritten all existing law on arbitration into a single statute, and also modernised procedure in line with the trend towards more user-friendly ways of settling disputes.

the law was scattered in a diffuse body of (often arcane) cases which made it hard for people to understand or find. The statute law is also spread across three Acts - in 1950. 1975 and 1979 - each largely a reaction to tackle perceived efects in the common law.

We have highly developed

which is one of the main reasons why this country has been and still is a world centre for arbitration. But there is a major defect in that it is very difficult, without expert legal knowledge, to find even the most basic of the rules and principles governing arbitration." Lord Justice Saville

There are other criticisms. Arbitration is in vogue as a-way of resolving disputes outside the courts. The parties agree to appoint an arbitrator, usually an expert in the field,

Many arbitrations have become bogged down in court-like procedures and got more costly

> and the hearing will take place in private. The idea is that it provides a quicker and cheaper way to settle disputes than going to court. But many arbitrations have become bogged down in court-like procedures, and got slower and more costly.

For ten years there has been a movement to reform arbitration law. There was consensus on the need for reform; but not on how to do it. In 1985 the The problem, he says, is that United Nations Commission on International Trade Law adopted a model law on international arbitration. The Department of Trade and Industry then set up an adv-isory committee under Michael (now Lord) Mustill, the law lord, on whether the model should be adopted in place of our laws. The committeee in 1989 decided against, but recommended all existing law be the language and framework of the model law. That led in February 1994 to

a draft Bill from the DTI which was essentially a consolidation measure. It was widely criticised. "It quickly became apparent from the large number of responses to the draft that this was not what was wanted," Lord Justice Saville recalis. In November 1994, he was appointed to take over chairing the commit-tee from Lord Steyn (who had replaced Lord Mustill). His

committee scrapped the Bill and began from scratch. It sug-gested a new structure which follows a step-by-step guide to arbitration, starting with general princi-ples and the scope of arbitration, arbitration agreements.

ceedings, appointing an arbi-tral tribunal, its powers, how it should be conducted and so on. "Every attempt was made to set out the provisions in ordinary English, without recourse to legalese. The idea was in short, to provide a. narrative which an ordinary person could read, and from which such a person could learn what arbitrating in England entailed."

The committee produced a draft which was published as an interim report. On the basis of that, parliamentary counsel was then brought in to draft a-new Bill. The whole process has been remarkably quick. The first draft was out by July 1995, responses made in the summer, further drafts produced and a final Bill introduced in the Lords last December. The judge took just March 1995 off from judging



to work on what became the interim report and then a couple of weeks in October for the final draft.

The Bill is more than just a radical rewriting of the law. First, it strictly limits the right of appeal to the courts against an arbitration finding. One criticism of arbitration is that if one party does appeal, the courts have been too ready to overturn the finding. The courts will now be able to intervene in only limited circumstances. Secondly, it seeks to tackle the criticism that some arbitrations have become mini-courts.

The Bill imposes a statutory duty on arbitrators to adopt procedures suitable to the dispute; makes clear that hear-

ings do not even have to be oral; and that it may sometimes be appropriate to adopt

ne crucial reform will concentrate the minds of those using arbitration: the Bill provides that unless the tribunal may set a limit on the legal costs which they can recover, whatever they spend in practice. This will keep down costs. Lord Justice Saville argues: and prevent the inequality where one party, with bigger financial re-sources, "spends a lot of money on the case in the hope

What has emerged is tailor-made for the London arbitration industry of the future. Lord Justice Saville pays tribute to his committee, including Arthur Marriott, a solicitor who "kept alive the idea that we could do something like this and that it was what was

But the DYI gives full credit to his own contribution. Jonathan Evans, the minister who saw the Bill published, said: The work he has done is remarkable, in co-operation with the DTI and parliamentary counsel - and the universal view is that the Bill will make a great contribution in ensuring that London maintains its pre-eminence in arbi-

The money experts take legal action

Catrin Griffiths looks at the

law firms set up by accountants

feathers have been ruffled this week with the news that the accountancy firm, Price Waterhouse, is setting up an associated legal practice in direct competition with law firms. The firm is following in the footsteps of Arthur Andersen's lightning strike at the legal scene in February 1993, when the world's biggest accountancy firm established Garrett & Co.

"Price Waterhouse UK has been only too aware of what Andersen has done with Garrett," says lan Taplin, Price Waterhouse's tax partner. "We have been monitoring it to

see if we could do something mila. Setting up Water Price house's

house's legal arm is being Arnheim, Hammond Suddards' City partner, who approached

the firm early last year. No stranger to start-up ventures, Mr Arnheim - who was still negotiating exit terms at press time -established Hammond's corporate practice in London four years ago.

Because Price Waterhouse is constrained by Law Society rules disallowing multidisciplinary practices and formal fee-sharing arrangements, it can only opt for the same route as was taken with Garrett & Co: setting up a separate law firm but selling it as the first step to a one-stop shop. "It is a potential enhancement of our service to clients," says Mr Taplin. We have a vision of developing a good quality commercial capability in a fairly short period of time."

PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY

Price Waterhouse's confidence in the immediate growth of the venture is underlined by the fact that it has allocated office space for ten lawyers. Now that there are two major accountancy firms in the market for legal services, the UK corporate lawyers — initially sceptical about Garrett & Co cannot ignore the threat to the legal status quo. "I welcome the move shows we're in the right market at the right time," says Julia Chain, Garrett &

Co's managing partner. According to Mr Taplin. Price Waterhouse made the

move in order to fill the gap in It will covers France, enhance Spain, Portugal and Germany. our service However. UK to clients likely to see it as anything other than a

challenge to corporate practices here. "It is clearly a challenge to law firms," says Bill Tudor John, a senior partner in City firm. Allen & Overy. "As soon as Arthur Andersen moved into the area it was obvious that other firms would

Price Waterhouse's venture will almost certainly flush out other major accountancy practices which have been quietly circling the legal market. The accountants could certainly tap into the dissatisfaction felt by partners in mid-tier commercial law firms. As one senior insolvency lawyer puts it: "The phones will be hot. It could turn the legal profession on its

• The author edits Legal Busi-

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CHAMBERS

The First Offer

on by his firm at the end of articles simply because there was no open-ing for him. The senior partner was dvice he gave he said, with some emphasis, "Whatever you do, don't take the first job that's offered."

This rang in the candidate's ears of weeks, causing some inde when, sure enough, he was offered a job after his first interview. The new impressed him, and the job was he naturally hesitated. If I'm that good, he may have thought, there will be better jobs around. In the end he accepted, and is pleased, in fact,

ercumstances turned the job down d spent the next six mont job-market regretting that he did. The advice that the senior partner cave was good; it isn't wise

to accept the first offer unless you are absolutely sure about it. But there is a difference if the other comes after a first interview arranged by an employment agency. The aim of the agency will be to select a few vacancies which seem ideally suited. It is likely, therefore, that the view will be for a job whe the work will be what the candi wants and the candidate will fit the oyer's needs. Not susprisingly, there is a good chance that the job down, it may be some time before such a vacancy comes up again.



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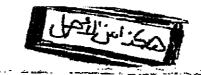
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Privy Council

Oueen's Bench Divisional Court

Vy Council Law Report February 6 1996 Exercise of prerogative of mercy is not justiciable

Reckley v Minister of Public Safety and Immigration and Others (No 2)

Before Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Goff of Chieveley, Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Hoffmann and Sir Michael Hardie Boys

Judgment February 5 The exercise of the prerogative of mercy in a death sentence case under the Constitution of the Bahamas was not justiciable.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council held that the decision in de Freitas v Benny ([1976] AC 239) remained good law, and refused to grant the petitioner, Thomas Reckley, leave to appeal from the refusal by the Court of Appeal of the Bahamas of a stay of execution until final determination of his constitutional motion which alleged that the carrying out of the sentence of death passed upon him would contravene his constitu-tional rights.

Article 92 of the Constitution. provides: "(I) Where an offender has been sentenced to death . . . the minister shall cause a written report of the case from the tria tice of the Supreme Court, ther with such other information derived from the record of the case or elsewhere as the minster may require, to be taken into consideration at a meeting of the advisory committee...

"(3) The minister shall not be obliged in any case to act in accordance with the advice of the advisory committee

Mr Geoffrey Tattersall, QC and Mr Timothy Straker for the pe-titioner: Sir Godfray Le Quesne, QC, Mr Michael Hamilton, Direcfor of Legal Affairs, the Bahamas,

Mr Bernard Turner, Deputy DLA. the Bahamas, and Mr Peter Knox for the respondents.

LORD GOFF said that the petitioner was convicted of mander in 1990 and sentenced to death. His appeal against conviction and entence was dismissed by the

Court of Appeal in 1991. His petition for special leave to appeal to the Privy Council was dismissed in 1992. The Advisory Committee on the Prerogative of Mercy mer to consider his case on May 18, 1995, and thereafter the minister decided to advise the Governor-General that the law should be allowed to take its

A warrant for the execution of the petitioner signed by the Gov-ernor-General directing that the cution should take place on May 30 was read to the peritioner

on May 26.
Constitutional proceedings were commenced claiming that execu-tion would be contrary to his constitutional rights on the grounds, inter alia, that he had not been afforded the right to see the judge's report and other material placed by the minister before the advisory committee, and to make representations to the committee with reference to that material before they tendered their advice to

On May 29 Mr Justice Osadebay refused a stay of execu-tion until final determination of the constitutional motion, Acting Chief Justice Fountain, sitting as a single judge of the Court of Appeal dismissed the petitioner's appeal from that decision. The petitioner

Order was within judge's power

Miah v Sewell and Another An order in the county court striking out a plaintiff's claim complying with the terms of an "unless" order by failing to file and serve evidence within the prescribed time was a very strong order to make but did not fall outside the ambit of the discretion

vested in the judge.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice McCowan and Lord Justice Thorpe) so held on January, 23when dismissing an appeal by the plaintiff, Jett Miah, from Judge Chalkley's order in Basingstoke County Court on October 31, 1994, striking out his claim against James Sewell and Shamim Hus-

case but argued that striking out which to punish him for his failure. But the judge, having made efforts to bring the case back

on to the rails, had understandably

been vexed by the plaintiff's dis-

recent for his orders. It was a strong order to make: plaintiff would have been bound to succeed against one or other of the defendants. But it had been incumbeat on the plaintiff in such circumstances to advance such excuse or explanation to the judge by evidence served in advance of

There had been no such evidence

advisory committee point. Their Lordships recognised that it was unusual for a point of that character to be considered upon an adjourned hearing of a pention for leave to ameal from a refusal of stay of an execution, but had taken that exceptional course in the present case because it involved a hallenge to a previous decision of

the Privy Council and so could not

have been successfully advanced in the Bahamian courts. Article 90 of the Bahamian ernor-General a wide range of powers exercisable by him in eccordance with the advice of a designated minister including power to substitute a sentence of life imprisonment for a sentence of

Article 91 provided for the advsory committee comprising the designated minister, the Attorney General, and between three and five other members appointed by

Article 92 was concerned with the functions of the advisory committee. Article 92(1) was directly in point in cases such as the in death sentence cases the

prerogative of mercy would auto-matically be considered by the committee and apart from the trial judge's report, there was no obligation on the minister to place

The respondents submitted that the exercise of the prerogative of mercy in death sentence cases was a personal discretion vested in the ter to depart from the law, as

Mr Tattersall's first submission on behalf of the petitioner was that the exercise of the prerogative of mercy was in the present case amenable to judicial review. His second was that, in any event, the man sentenced to death should be entified to make representations to the advisory committee; and since be made by him unless he or his advisers were aware of the nature antagonistic to his case, the gist of

Mr Tattersall's submissions immediately faced the difficulty that they were contrary to the decision of the Privy Council in de Freitas v Benny ([1976] AC 239).

In that case, which arose under the Constitution of Trinidad and Tobago, the appellant claimed tha he was entitled (i) to be shown the material which the designated minister placed before the advisory committee, and (ii) to be heard by the committee in reply at James Sewell and Shamim Hussein for damages for injuries:

to explain the plaintiff's manifest isory committee, and (ii) to be
default. The judge had not exheard by the committee in reply at
LORD RUSTICE THORPE said ceeded the discretion yested in him a hearing at which he was legally
that the plaintiff accepted there by traking the order.

It was claimed that the functions of the committee were quasi-judicial in nature and accordingly that any failure to grant to the appellant the rights he claimed would contravene the rules of natural justice and infringe his right not be deprived of life except mission was rejected by the Ju-dicial Committee in a judgment delivered by Lord Diplock (see pp247-248). His observations were

tion of the Bahamas. Articles 90-92 of the present Bahamian Constitution first appeared in the Constitution of 1963. committee, and the statutory pro-visions governing the exercise of its functions in death sentence cases. reinforced Lord Diplock's analysis

equally apposite to the Constitu-

First, every death sentence case had to be considered by the advisory comminee. There was noquestion of such consideration depending on any initiative from the condemned man or his

Second, despite the obvious intention that the advisory comnittee should be a group of listinguished citizens, and the fact that the minister was bound to consult them in death sentence cases, he was not bound to accept their advice. That strongly indicated an intention to preserve the status of the minister's discretion as a purely personal dis-

a reputable and impartial source.

It might be interred that the the Constitution for an advisory committee was to provide a constitutional safeguard in ister's discretionary power was of such a nature that it was not subject to judicial review.

Third, the material which had to meeting of the advisory committee was, apart from the trial judge's report, "such other information derived from the record of the case or elsewhere as the minister may require". That was inconsistent right to make representations to

The point could be placed in a broader context. A man accused of a capital offence in the Bahamas had his legal rights. He was entitled to the benefit of a trial. ith all the rights which that entailed. After conviction and sentence, he had a right to appeal to the Court of Appeal and, if his appeal was unsuccessful, to petition for leave to appeal to the Privy Council. After his rights of appeal were

exhausted, he might still be able to invoke his fundamental rights.

rights, and in particular to his even after he had been sentenced to

If it was proposed to execute him contrary to the law, for example because there had been a failure to consult the advisory committee as required by the Constitution, he could apply to the Supreme Court for redress under article 28.

The actual exercise by the designated minister of his discretion in death sentence cases was different. It was concerned with a regime, automatically applicable, under which the designated minister, having consulted with the advisory committee, decided, in the exercise of his own personal discretion, whether to advise the Governor-General that the law should or should not take its

discretion, if exercised in favour of the condemned man, would involve a denorture from the law act of mercy or of grace.

As Lord Diplock had said in de Freitas v Benny (at p247): "Mercy is not the subject of legal rights. It begins where legal rights end." And the act of the advisory committee in advising the minister was of the same character as the act of the minister in advising the Governor-General.

Mr Tanersall had invoked a number of authorities in support of his argument, but they did not assist him. His Lordship referred to Council of Civil Service Linions v Minister for the Civil Service [1985] AC 374). R v Secretary of State for the Home Departm Ex parte Bentley (1994) QB 349). Burt v Governor-General (1992) 3 NZLR 672) and Lauriano v Attor-ney-General of Belize (unreported,

He continued that the petitioner faced similar difficulties in respect the principle of fairness required that he should be entitled to make representations to the advisory committee and, for that purpose, to see, or to be provided with the gist of, the material which had been placed before the committee.

Reliance was placed on R v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Doody [1994] 1 AC 531), but that concerned a different subject matter. Lord Mustill, with whose speech the remainder of the Appella Committee agreed, was careful to distinguish that case from a case in which the prisoner was essentially in mercy, where there was no ground to ascribe to him the rights which fairness might otherwise

That was precisely the present case. It was clear from the constitu-tional provisions under which the advisory committee was estab-

vested in the minister.

The condemned man was at liberty to make such representations, in which event the minister could, and no doubt would in practice, cause such representa-tions to be placed before the condemned man had no right that he should do so.

Their Lordships wished to stress the nature of the constitutional saleguard which the introduction of the advisory committee had created. On the committee, the designated minister and the Anorney-General would be joined by a group of people nominated by the Governor-General.

Those would be men and women of distinction, whose presence, a

Those who drew the Constitu-

stay of execution, and leave to appeal was therefore refused. Their Lordships' opinion on the

that the condemned man had no the committee in a death sentence case; and so there was no basis on which he was emided to be supplied with the gist of other material before the committee.

That was entirely consistent with a regime under which a

contribution, at the heart of the process would ensure that the condemned man's case was given, and was seen by citizens to be given, full and fair consideration. Such people would expect to be provided with all relevant material, including any material supplied by or on behalf of the condemned man; and in the most unlikely event that the responsible civil servants did not place such material before them, they were capable of making the necessary inaviries.

tion were well aware of the personal nature of the discretion to the consequent absence of any supervisory role by the courts, but also considered that, by introduc-ing an advisory committee with the constitution and functions speci-fied in the Constitution, they were providing a safeguard both appro-priate and adequate for the

The decision in de Freitas v Benny remained good law and, in a case arising under the Constitu-tion of the Bahamas, was determinative of the advisory committee point. There was no arguable point to justify the grant of leave to appeal from the decision of Acting Chief Justice Fountain refusing a

advisory committee point had been expressed solely with reference to death sentence cases, for which special provision was made in article 92(1). Their Lordships recommended that the petition Solicitors: Clifford Chance;

Charles Russell.

Penal powers are relevant to mode of trial

Regina v Flax Bourton Magistrates' Court, Ex parte Commissioners of Customs and

Before Lord Justice Kennedy and Mr Justice Forbes Judgment January 29

In determining whether an either way offence should be tried sum-1973 of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 required justices to apply their minds, inter alia, to the question whether or not their powers of punishment would be adequate if they dealt with the case summarily.

Where justices were in doubt as to the appropriate level of sentence for a particular class of case, they should seek their clerk's

Having decided to try a case summarily, section 38 of the 1980 Act, as amended by section 25 of the Criminal Justice Act 1991, gave justices an unfettered discretion to commit a defendant to the crown

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held, granting an applica-tion by the Commissioners of tion by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise to quash a sitting at Long Ashton, on August 25, 1995 not to commit the defendant, Simon Roger Allan, to the crown court for trial on charges under section 72(1) of the Value Added Tax Act 1990, of being knowingly concerned in fraudulent evasion of value-added

Mr David Barnard for the commissioners: the justices and the defendant did not appear and were not represented.

LORD JUSTICE KENNEDY said that the justices were aware of section 19(1) and (3) of the 1980 Act and the guidance contained in Practice Note (Mode of Trial: Guidelines) (1990) 1 WLR 1439) as revised in Mode of Trial Guide-lines (HMSO) issued by the Secretariat of the Criminal Justice Consultative Council on February 1, 1995, which provided, inter alia: "(f) In general, except where

otherwise stated, either way of-fences should be tried summarily unless the court considers that the particular case has one or more of the features set out in the following owers are insufficient (g) The court should also con-

sider its power to commit an offender for sentence under section 38 of the Magistrates' Courts Act

1985 as amended ... if information emerges during the course of conclude that the offence is so serious, or the offender such a risk to the public, that their powers to sentence him are inadequate. This amendment means that committal for sentence is no longer deter-

and antecedents of the defendant." Their attention was also drawn to R v Dover Justices. Ex parte Pamment ((1994) 15 Cr App R (S) 778) and R v North Selion Mag-istrates Court, Ex parte Marsh ((1995) 159 JP 9), which showed that section 38 of the 1980 Act. as amended, gave justices an unfentered discretion to commit for sentence after a decision as to mode of trial had been made.

The justices concluded that the case was not one of those specified in the guidelines as suitable for cepted jurisdiction.

The prosecution submitted that the justices failed to take into account whether their powers of punishment were sufficient as required by section 19(3).

There was nothing in the cases which relieved a magistrates court of that statutory obligation. All that the recent cases said was that if. having decided upon summary trial, justices later came to the conclusion that their powers were inadequate, they could change their minds and commit for sentence. But justices still had to make up their minds in the first place. The words of the statute prevailed His Lordship would not have

been prepared to grant relief had the justices applied their minds to section 19(3). If justices were in doubt as to what the level of have assistance from their clerk. Having regard to decisions in difficult to envisage the justices concluding that their powers would have been adequate had they formed a view under section

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Mr Justice Forbes agreed. Solicitors: Solicitor, Customs

Correction

In Penrose v Official Receiver (The Times December 19, 1995) the defendant should have been the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry and it was wrongly stated that the Official Receiver had opposed the application.

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English Open kicks

off new world tour

THE English Open table tennis tournament will be the

opening competition in an eight-event professional tour that

will culminate in a final in China (Richard Eaton writes).

The International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) tour will

carry total prize money of \$250,000 (£165,000) with the English Open, to be staged at Kettering Arena from April 3 to 8, worth \$30,000.

The English Table Tennis Association is still looking for a

uitable sponsorship deal. The FITF is talking to the

International Management Group about promotion and sponsorship of the tour, and the likelihood is that, while the

final will be sponsored, an umbrella sponsorship may have

England's quest for flexibility must be based on traditional strengths

Richards needed to restore old order

By DAVID HANDS RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

WILL CARLING, who has been far more positive about England's erratic victory over Wales in the rugby union five nations' championship than many of the team's critics, called yesterday for the earliest possible selection of the XV to meet Scotland next month. Whether the captain's wish will be granted, however, lies in the hands of Jack Rowell, the

Rowell has much to ponder in a season when, after four matches, England have shown little sign of coherent rugby. In particular, he must consider whether to modify his approach so that his players can ensure that jundamental elements of their game, the set pieces, are in

"Geoff Cooke was a meticulous planner, a great man for detail," Carling said of the manager who preceded Rowell. "Jack's view is that you need players who can play a flexible game. We feel we need to develop a broader canvas." Rowell claims to articulate the squad view rather than his own and Carling denies any difference of opinion

between him and the manager. However, Rowell's hope that the same squad would serve throughout the championship must come under review. The lincout is not functioning, which, given the proven abilities at lock of Martin Johnson and Martin Bayfield, suggests Mark Regan's place at hooker is under threat. The short-term choice as a replacement is Graham Dawe, although his throwing-in is not the best part of his game, and the longing, of Gloucester.
To select either against Scotland on

March 2 would be a gamble. There must also be an acknowledgement that too many wise old heads have departed. Neither Dean Richards nor Andy Robinson enjoy making up the numbers at squad weekends and both regard themselves as capable of

international rugby.
Of the two, Richards would provide a core of common sense, which seems patently lacking in the England pack. His return, probably at the expense of Tim Rodber, would help to restore traditional strengths at scrum and lineout.

Don Rutherford, the Rugby Foot-ball Union (RFU) technical administrator, has acknowledged that some of England's rugby in the 21-15 win

term is represented by Richard last Saturday was sterile. "People confirmed that, whatever the Inter-Cockerill of Leicester, or Phil Green want to be entertained and just national Rugby Football Board stirmwant to be entertained and just winning isn't going to be acceptable any more," he said. "People felt short-

هكذا ف الاعماء

England have pleaded a change of personnel in mitigation for their uninspired form, but it does not appear to have upset Scotland, who have a clutch of inexperienced players in key positions yet now lead the table. They will name their team to play Wales on February 17 tomorrow, while the French brace themselves today for four or five changes against Ireland. Experienced players such as Olivier Merie and Thierry Lacroix face the guillotine.

Carling's knee injury is likely to keep him out of the delayed Pilkington Cup tie between Harle-Park on Saturday, but the RFU has national Rugby Football Board stipulation about 180-day transfer periods, Nick Popplewell, the Ireland prop, may take his place in the Newcastle front row.

Tony Hallett, the RFU secretary, wants a conference of rugby-playing countries in Europe, so that a formal agreement can be reached over transfers which does not conflict with -European Community law, "You can have an open gangway between EC countries providing the unions affected agree to the transfer," Hallett said after consultation with lawyers.

"Only when one union says no to a transfer will we get a test case and I believe that should be handled by the governing body, rather than an individual club. All our advice is that, if clubs have agreed terms, a refusal would not be sustainable."

Storm-force

effort sees

Manchester

stay top

BY NORMAN DE MESQUITA

A CROWD of 12,386, a record

for British ice hockey, saw

Manchester Storm beat

Bracknell Bees 4-2 to maintain

their hold on the leadership of the British League first

Storm led 2-1 at the end of

the first period but two second-

period goals from Hilton

Ruggles gave them a three-goal cushion. The Bees could

score only once in the final

period. With Blackburn Hawkes beating Telford Ti-

gers 9-7, the Bees lost some

ground and, although they are

still in third place, they are

seven points behind Black-

burn and 15 points away from

top place.
In the premier division,
Cardiff Devils drew within
one point of Sheffield Steelers

after their 8-4 win over

Newcastle Warriors in which

Ian Cooper, Randy Smith,

Doug Smail and Steve Moria

Slough Jets gained a rare

win, beating Basingstoke Bi-

son 7-5 with Dan Gratton and

Rob Coutts each scoring three

The Bison slipped further, behind the leading pack and, if their injured players do not

return soon, they may even

find themselves struggling to

quality for the championship

play-offs. Durham Wasps re-

main in fourth place and

completed a miserable week-

end for Fife Flyers, beating

them 9-6, with Kip Noble and

Kim Issel leading the way by

Milton Keynes Kings, who

have recently shown improved

form, lost their way against

Humberside Hawks and were

defeated 3-1 at home.

scoring three goals apiece.

each scored twice.

goals.

division.

to wait until the 1997 tour. With the world's best players likely to be attracted to Kettering, the 1996 English Open could be the highest-quality competition held in this country since the 1977 world championships in Birmingham. Playing numbers game

RUGBY LEAGUE: The Super League is set to abandon the raditional one to 13 numbering on shirts by following the example of the FA Carling Premiership in football in adopting squad numbers and names on players' backs. The proposal by chief executives of the 12 clubs goes before the Rugby League Council tomorrow. Chorley, of the second division, have appointed Kevin Tamati, the former Salford coach and New Zealand prop forward, as successor to Bob Eccles. London Broncos have made Bev Risman, a former dual international, director of development.

Henman's promotion

TENNIS: Tim Henman. right, who was ranked No 276 in the world eight months ago, has climbed to a career-best No 79 after reaching the semi-finals of the ATP Shanghai Open last week. Heaman, 21, from Oxford, is now only 40 places behind Canadianborn Greg Rusedski. Britain has seven men in the top 200 in the world, yet of the women only Clare Wood is in the top 200 at No 169.



Italian beats elements

SKIING: Werner Perathoner celebrated his first World Cup victory of the season in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, yesterday. The Italian won a demanding super-giant slalom race that was postponed from Sunday because of fog and then stopped repeatedly so that repairs could be made to the course. Perathoner, whose only other World Cup victory came in Kvitfjell, Norway, last season, completed the 1.36km course in lmin 19.62sec. Luc Alphand, of France, was second in 1:19.83. Patrick Wirth, of Austria, finished third.

Wenton challenge

BOXING: Richie Wenton, the British super-bantamweight champion, has a chance to win a Lonsdale Belt outright when he defends his title against Wilson Docherty, of Scotland, at the Basildon Festival Hall tonight. The champion can expect a spirited challenge from the Scotland after the iremendance effort of his brother, Drew, in a world life bout against Daniel Jiminez, of Puerto Rico. in Mansfield recently. Wilson is not quite in Drew's class. but he has the stamina and determination to test Wenton.

Barker goes through

RACKETS: Guy Barker justified his seventh seeding with a narrow defeat of the powerful Tim Cockroft in four exciting games to reach the quarter-finals of the Lacoste British Open championship at Queen's Club. Cockroft, who in April partners Willie Boone in the world doubles eliminator. started strongly, but Barker raised his game to secure victory. He now meets Boone, the second seed and former world champion, who beat the Queen's Club professional, David Johnson. in the state of the last

Bruce seals new contract to stay at United

By Russell Kempson and David Maddock

STEVE BRUCE, 35, the Manchester United captain, yesterday agreed a new contract with the club that will run for a further 18 months and earn him up to £1.5

His basic salary over the period will be worth £600,000, but he also stands to gain another £750,000 if he can fill Old Trafford, with its new capacity of 55,000, for a testimonial match planned for next season. Bonuses and a new signing-on fee will take the figure close to the £1.5

Bruce said: "I must admit I thought seriously about hanging up my boots and going into management. But I had some good advice from Kevin Keegan (the Newcastle United manager], who told me that I would be mad to do that when

I could still play.
"Manchester United have been very fair to me, and I believe that I can perform at this level for a little while yet. I know that I have been written off for the last two years, but I'm still playing, and I believe I'm still playing quite well."

Martin Edwards, the Manchester United chairman and chief executive, has also come to an agreement with Alex Ferguson, his manager, avoiding a potentially divisive

Ray Lewington, the Crystal Palace joint first-team coach, may well have signed his own death warrant at the club. Lewington openly criticised Ron Noades, his chairman. after the 0-0 draw against Charlton Athletic on Sunday. Noades should not interfere with team selection policy at Selhurst Park.

It is a predicament that Alan Smith, the former Palace manager, is familiar with, having publicly fallen out with Noades last season and then left - eventually to emerge at Wycombe Wanderers - by grudging mutual consent.

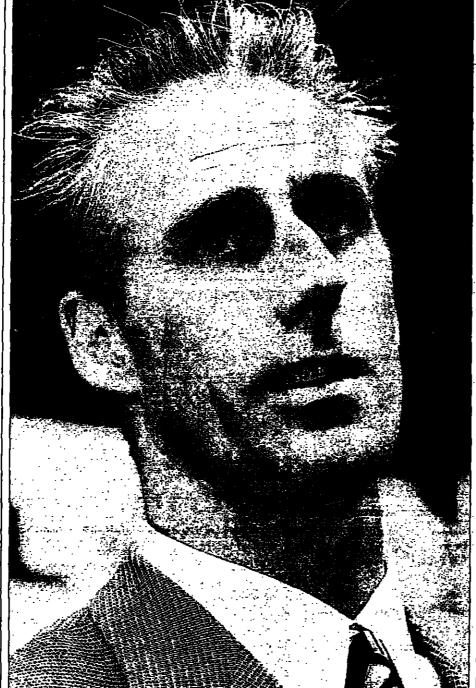
Smith yesterday sympathised with Lewington on a situation that may end in a change of management at the Endsleigh Insurance League first division club.

Ray is a nice fellow, far too nice to work for that bloke," Smith said. "He [Noades] wants Dave Bassett in, that's the bottom line of the whole

Bassett spent three days as manager of Palace in 1984 before changing his mind and returning to Wimbledon. He left Sheffield United by mutual consent in December and has yet to find new employment. Lewington was appointed first-team coach at Palace. with Peter Nicholas, 18 months ago. Coppell was brought back to the club, as technical director, in June.

"I want my team to pass and want them to play." Lewington said two days ago. "I don't want them to start lumping the ball forward. I'm

not going to change." Port Vale's FA Cup fourthround replay with Everton, of the FA Carling Premiership, is already in danger of becoming a victim of the cold weather that has captured northern England in its icy grip. Vale Park has no ground covers Lewington insisted that and the pitch is already frozen.



Mick McCarthy displays the new face of Republic of Ireland football after he was unveiled as their manager at Lansdowne Road vesterday. Report, page 48

FOR THE RECORD

SNOW REPORTS

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vai d'isere	85			powder		SUN	-2	5/2	
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OLS FORECAST

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Saturday February 10 unless stated Coupon No fature, forecast COCA COLA CUP SEMI-FINAL FIRST LEG	11 12 13 14
Not on coupons: Barmargham v Leed; Sunday! FA PREMIERSHIP 1 Man Utd v Blackburn 1 2 Shelf W - Wentbecon 1 2 Shelf W - Wentbecon 2 Not on coupons: 5ctron v Accor Villa, Coventry v Onel- sea, Everton v Manchester City, Middlesbrough v Nec- castle, Nottingham Forest v Arscha. Ouerns Park Rangers v Liverpool (Sun- day); Tottomham v Wesl	15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26
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SCOTTISH PREMIER
39 Falkirk v Cebc
40 Hearts v Kondeer
41 Parock v Kimanock
42 Radh v Ribernan
43 Rargers v Mothewell
43 Rargers v Mothewell National v Chariton MBA v Southerus SECOND DIVISION Braskota v Stockbot 1
Snistol C v Bournim'th 2
Burnley v Crows X
Caricle v Brentford X
Hull v Bristol R X
Hull v Bristol R X
Peterboro v Shrisbury X
Swennest v Santisbury X SCOTTISH FIRST
44 Aircrie v Dunf mine
45 Chydebank v St Mines
45 Dunberton v Hemilton
47 Dundee U v G Morian
48 S J'stine v Dundee Swamsea v Swamdon Walsall v Notts Co Wrednim v Chest field 2 Wycomice v Brackwool 1 49 Berwick v Sterihimus 50 Fosfar v Q ol South 51 Montrose v Clyde rock v Rotherham THIRD DIVISION Chester v Cambridge

52 String v Ayr 53 Stranter v East Fife SCOTTISH THIRD Fulham v Hartingos 31 Funant v Hartiopool 2 1 32 Gillingham v Torquay 1 1 33 Hereford v Lincoln 1 1 34 Layton O v Carolif 2 2 34 Layton O v Carolif 2 2 35 North pton v Dartignon 1 1 36 Preston v Barner 1 56 Livingston v Affox 57 Queens Pk v E String t 58 Rose v Albion DRAWS (home teams) Transpora, West Bronn, Burnlay, Carbole, Codod, Peterborough, Swansea, Sounthape, Alidne, Cowderfoeath, St. Johnstone, Cowderfoeath, St. Johnstone, Cowderfoeath, St. St. Orackes, Sounthape, Condembasith, NWAYS: Winneledon, Charton, Brizol Wycombe, Presson, Rochdale, Aways, Wycombe, Presson, Rochdale, Aways, Wycombe, Presson, Rochdale, Aways, Wycombe, Presson, Rochdale, Aways, Wycombe, Presson, Cardiff Deams; West Bronn, Cardine, Swansea, Summer Winneledon, Cardine, Brizol Bronn, Cardine, Swansea, Bronn, Cardine, Wycombe, Presson, Rochdale, Wycombe, Presson, Rochda Vince Wright

Vince Wright gave 11 out of 12 homes last Saturday

SCOTTISH SECOND

ATHLETICS

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

STUTTGART: Indoor meeting: Winners: Men: 60 metres: D Ecrima (Nigera) 6:56:200m; J Regis (GB) 20:77. 400m; C Held (US) 45:69 1,500m; M Kipitanu Helm, 36:88 3,000m; H Gebrischse (Eth) 7:50:72 hapfid record; 60m hundles: 1, L Tong (China) 7:55; 37 Jainet (GB) 7:57 High jump; J. C Rhoden (Gar) 2:35m; 2:8 Sinch (GG) 2:24 Pole vaulat M Stoke (Ger) 5:70 Women: 60m; M Paschile (Gen 7:10 400m; G Breuer (Gen 5:114 1,000m; S Multiple (Mac) 2:36:91 1,500m; S Nudthermand (Ger) 4:12:93:60m hundles: B Bucaves (Stokena) 7:96 Triple (Jimp): 15 Kaspanicha (C2) 14:26 Long jump; H Orecholer (Ger) 6:96 BASKETBALL.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION INIBAL Indiana 90 New York 83, Orlando 122 San Americo 109 (OT). Procens 122 Washington 119 (OT). Abaria 106 Charlotte (04 Denver 105 Chicago 93 LA Lakas 116 Ulan 103. Golden State 96 New Jorsey 82 BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Donoaster 87 Leopards 104: Chester 19 Leobaster 77. Leopards 104: Chester 19 Leobaster 77. Leopards 104: Chester 19 Leobaster 78 Donoaster 86 Herred 57. Newscale 84 Derby 90. Sheffield 71 Mandrecter 88 Leobaster 88 Leobaste Deriot 90, Stemberg 71 Marchester of MATIONAL LEAGUE Mer: First division: Briton 65 Solent 55 Bury 92 Stackton 79. Coventry 99 National residency for Wate 82 Prymouth 76 Cardill 82 Womans: First division: Ipoword 61 Natingham 45 Johnson 71 Southwest 61 Natingham 45

COUNTY ANTRIM: Woodsides Master Pairs: D and B Thompson (Co Anton) bt | Marshall and A Corpo (Scot) 7-4, 7-1, 7-5 Martral and A Corso (Soot) 7-1, 7-1, 7-5
NOTTINGHAM: EIBA under 25 singles championship: Ouerier-finals: M. Royal-Mid Suttois bt J. Parkman (Blackpool Borough) 21-4, N. Cammack (Boston) bt P. Sampson (Cunting) 21-19, D. Martin (Herry, bt. S. Stellon: (Scurithospe) 21-44; P. Homman (Mathimospe) 21-41; P. Homman (Mathimospe) 21-11. Semi-finals: Royal 21, Cartinack 18. Martin 21, Newmen 18. Final: Royal 5: Martin 21, Newmen 18. Final: Royal 5: Martin 21, P. Martin 21, P. Trockett. ATHERLEY TROPHY: Quarter finals: Cumbria 119, Lincolnstrate 115, Norfolk 119, Northemptonishing 90, Surrey 141, Oxford-shire 114, Cenon 115, Berkshire 106

BOXING OSAKA: World Bosting Council Syweight championship: Yun Artachako: (Purss, holder) bt Rauf Juarez (Mex) pts

CRICKET RED STRIPE CUP (third day of tout): Port-of-Spaint Guyara 173 and 152 (N de Groot 78. E. Artone 5-47). Innicial and Totago 238 and 88-2 Timedad and Totago was by eight innicials. Bridgetown: Windward Is-lands 233 and 318 (U Pore 7s; J Muray 701; Bartsados 339 and 78-0 Montego Bay: Jameira 424-7 dec Leeward Islands 227 and 127-6 BOMBAY: One-day international: Holland 216-6 (P. Cartrell 71, S. Lubbers 57: T Onyango 3-50), Kenya 213-9 (M. Odumbe 60 H Madi 39, F. Aporso 2-29)

FOOTBALL ITALIAN LEAGUE: Napol ? Attracte C SPANISH LEAGUE Español O Pesi

Sociadad O, Real Machet & Real Beng 2: Afrieto Bethac G Ovieto 1: Senila O Racing Santander I, Mierria D Componita 2: Real Valadolic 1: Salamanta G: Deportrio La Courfa 1: Yeneria 1: Deta Vigo 2: Attacata 2: Rano Valetan HONOLULLI: Pro Bowt: NFC 20 AFC Stars PORTUGUESE LEAGUE: Benkoa 1 Estasla Amadora J. Martitto 1 Tusense D. Farense

1 Belenerico 3
BRAZILIAN LEAGUE. Ro. State Cupi:
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1 Burgu 1 Flaminente O, Yasichi da Gorta
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3 Mog Mism 0 America 3 Umizo São Joeo
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Pringuosa 3 Bornbogo 1 Noversonino 2
Analytica 2 Flaminente C.
A Windersonia C.
A Wind Arasiba 2 Fermiona C.

FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE: National League: Posponed: Evernool FC Lades v. Excusive Balas V/a Adnes v. Besturi Rose Routier advision.

Foodernaster Harry Briefs 1. Postponed: Languard v. Notice Churty. Cups. Fourth round: Traitment Postponed v. Languard V. Rembers G. Condon 1. Semi-briefs Assent 1. Kembery 4.

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INTERNATIONAL MATCH Catal 2 Rome International teaters of a Permana 3 (a 2 cm):

FA CARL SEERY WASE Soch-round drawn
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Carriery Land.

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FOOTBALL

FA Cup

Bolton v Leeds .7 45)

Second division

KEY BISCAYNE, Florida: Caribbean Cla Murphy 69, 67 67 207; H trein 65, 71, 71 208; A Addin 68, 67 23, 209; R Floyd 69, 208: R Acton 68, 67, 73, 209; R Floyd 69, 68, 72 M H9 72, 66, 71, 212; G Marsh (Acs) 71, 72, 69, J Bland 72, 69, 71, R Charles NJ; CB, 71, 73, J Jacobs 72, 67, 73, J Dett 70, 70, 73, 213; S Hoodsy, (SA) 71, 67, 75, Dett 70, 70, 73, J Schrodder 71, 67, 75, 214; L Treston 73, 67, 74, 215; G Player (SA) 73, 71, 71, B Devin 73, 69, 73, J Powell 72, 67, 76, 216; B Band 72, 71, 73, R McSec 70, 74, 78 HOCKEY

HOCKEY ASSOCIATION CUP: Fifth round: Beeston 2, Guidford 5; Firebrands 1 Teclarington 4 Havent 4, Ediphaston 0, Col Loughtonean 3, Trogen 5; Rehmond 0 Reading 10 CMARTER-FINAL DRAW; Havant 2 East Genzielad Guidford v Reading, Children 1, Constitution 1, Loughtomars v Southgate, Leconogron v Centierbury Fies to be played March 16 CRYSTAL, PALACE: AEWHA Indoor championeshipe: Under 16: Seem-Scho-Gordon & Buddingsen J, The Chase Scho-Herry Court 1. Final: Gordano 4 Henry Court 2 Under-19: Serm-Insite Portishead 5 O Loughtomaris 4 Dame Alace Harper & Bramedovo 4 Final: Portishead 6 Dame Alice Harper 0.

ICE HOCKEY NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL). Tampa Bay 5 Buffalo 2, Vancouver 4 Winnipeg 2; NY Islanders 5 Dates 3; Chroage 4 Anahelm 1 SYTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Cardiff 8 Neucastife 4; Durham 9 File 5 Metron Keynes 1 Humberside 3; Slough 7 Basingstoles 5 First division: Billingham 5 Chelmston 65 Backburn 9 Tettood 7; Kanchester 4 Brackmelt; Murzayfield 3 Guildford 9; Palsiny 5 Stendon 2; Peterborough 3 Dumines 11; Solibul 5 Medway 6 MOTOR RACING

DAYTONA BEACH, Florida: Roles: 24-hours race: 1 W Tuylor, Sc Strapp, and J Pace (US) (Cidsmobio R and S MK-69) 637-Loc. 103.324mpt; 2. G Moretir (ft), M Papes (n), B Wolkir (fr) and D Theys (Bell (Ferrari 333SP) serve lap at term 5.518sec. 3, J Downing, B Hamlet, T Modelam and B Wachfeld ISS (Machel Nother) DIAM All tree Downing, B. Hamlet, T. McAdam and B. Waddell (US) (Mazda Kudzu DUM) 48 laps behind

RUGBY LEAGUE BNFL NATIONAL CUP: First round: Crossgeres 19 Waterhead 23 Second round: Adverth 54 Ship Inn 0, Askern 18 Daton 16, Belley, Victoria 12 Languagethy 24: Battley, Boyr, 8 Sainley, Rengers 14: Bevealey 24 Wigon S Cushberts 16, Brotherion 19 Stersungley 24: Chequeried

4 Upon and Frickley 30; Devisbury Cellic 22 Talbox 18; Devesbury Moor 18 Bischbrook 18; Devesbury Moor 18 Bischbrook 18; Doubroth 2 Halton Simms Cross 20; East Leeus 32 Oscatt Trinyl 6; Eastmoor Select 2 Suddal 18; Farmworth RO 9 16 Featherstone M W 20; Featherstone Amadeum 18 B R K 20; Fryston 34 Moddgreen 8; Neworth 24 Wigger St Jurdes 42; Hull Docklers 32 Westfleid Hotel 12; Kippax 4 Mayheld 44; Kirtholt W M C 8 Warney Central 25, Leigh East 0 Wootscon 32; Liversedge 14 Devesbury North 18; Lock Lare 34 Febrington Recs 6; Myeona 34 Oldham St Annes 30; Nortland 19 Embassy 20; Normariton 30 Thorthill Rengers 17; Outson 0 Stortung 34; Recdits 20 Brighouse Rampers 6; Shariston Rovers 19 Clayton 26; Welsuf Warloss 44 Reyston C; West Hull 14 Wiggon 1; Whitemoor Warniors 14 New Earswick A B 17; York Acom 10 Blesborough Rangers 15; Wiches St. Martes 44 London Colonials 4. Maries 44 Condon Colonials 4.

POSITIONED: Aspatha v Kells: Blackpool Sanley v Rylands; Broughton Red Rose v Barrow Island; Roughton Red Rose v Barrow Island; Crotton v Leeds Social: Crosfleids v Worth Village; Eastmoor v Dudge; Pit: Ecoles v Rhottingley Rock: Filtriby v Bednal; Polly Lane v Shalf Cross, Frizington Distington; Glasson Rangers v Millard; Heydiock v Westleid Welters; Hensingbern v Rose Broge; Laigh Miners v Saddeworth; Littleborough v Wigan St Patrice; Lowda v Cusensbury; Millon v Park Amateurs; President, v Bristomouliders; Cusens v Bisconia; Roose v Thornhul; Session v Crosf St. Jarrats; (Bigworth; v Wigan St Judges & St. Nicholas Arms v Ovender; Tameside

TODAYS FIXTURES

RUGBY UNION Kick-off 7.0 unless stated Tour match

Stringbourne, Wermouth v Bashley Or Montons Cup: Fourth round, Hinckley Tourn v Moor Green. Hudderskaid v Palentorough (? 45) | |pswich v Walszi: (7.45) Endsleigh Insurance League * Blackpool • Burnley Brasid Rovers v Chesterheid

Cattele v York (7.45) Swansea v Stockport Wycombe v Potreman (7.45) Third division Chester v Northampton Coldnester v Scarborough (7 45) Darlington v Hereford Rochdale v Preston (7 45) Scantinape v Blary Torquay v Barnet (7 65) Vauxhall Conference

Bramsgrove v Tellard (7 45) Daver v Atamotism (7 45) (10 00 akch inspection) Spaiding Cuc Cuarter-frail Kettering v Slough (7 45): .. Bell's Scottish League First division Chydebank , Dumbanom Second division Ctycle v Queen of Scutin

Tempents Scottish Cup Beneck v Dunder Utd Greenock Morton v Mortose REAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier divacion: Atherstone v VS Rugby, Gravesand and Northfeet v Meethy, 7/4 51 Popposed: Ruchden and Damonds v Sudbury In. Midland division: Evestiam v Buckingham Town Locester Util v Sudon Codellect: Tameorth v Norteaton Southern division: Enth and Belander v Stateston V Meethern by Meet

Icus LeAsUs. First division: Basingsloir:

1 Mariox. Edicincay. Theme, Heybridge
Swifts v Staines, Weinbelg v Leyton
Pervant. Second division: Dorlang v
Egrant. Hamplon v Selfron Welden.
Leatherhead v Bracknell. Third division:
Herbord v Martimood. Carifon Trophy:
Third round: Hungarloid v Hampton
Third round: Hungarloid v Hampton Wilder County Co

urneo
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION:
First dessen. Portsmouth v Briste Pover;
[70]: Ourens Part Rangers v Arsenal (at Narrow Borough, 70]: Wadord v Southampton (20) West Ham v Norwech
C. O., Charton v Windedoon (at Welling Und. 20). Second division: Carolif v Newcort AFC Newport AFC
PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Everton v Stoke (70), Notis County
v Marchester Und (70); Second division:
Manchester Unit v Grimpby (6.45),
LEAGUE OF WALES: Unrestritted v
Hotywor (1.56). Cup: Charterfinal, first
legi: Carrows v Ebby Vale: Fant Tom v
Corright: Chapt

SUBTRINOFF ITHISH LEAGUE FIRST OF Science Fresh LEAGUE Flesh de-vision: Bullyclair v Omagh RISH LEAGUE. Coca-Cola Floodit Cup: Firsh round, second leg: Cuusiders v Ballymena. Quarter finals: Officially v Colegania. Glenavon v Ards: Gentovan v Linfield. MODOL V WONEMENTRON CASSAS.

COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Prether division: Bedfert v Villag Sports;
Familiam v Camillagh, Merstham v
Chpsleed
MINERIVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE:
Premier division: Svilington v Lefchworth.

Premier division: Shilington v Letchworth.
NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE:
First division: Fixton v Burscough League
Cup: Third-nund replay. Traiting v
Kadagrove JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE Premier division: Comerd v Feticatore; Halstead v Cladon, Harvach and Parkeston v Newmarket. League Cur. and Parteston v Newmarket, League Cuc. Quarter-final replay, Wastonys v Heistead. Cup: Quarter-final: Diss v Tiptree, Falcenhom v Ety. JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE First di-vision: Ryde Sports v Cower Sports: Swanage and Herston v Thatcham.

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND FOOT-BALL ALLIANCE: Baneli v Pershare Town Characterist V Wilenhall, Hinckley Athletic v Samelinell, Footstelle V Halescovern H; Rushall O v Bolshall S.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Anoid v Steffiold; Desett Long v Resett Beauty Counties. Premier division: Amold v Steffold; Osseti Town v Denaby President's Oup: Fourth round: Hatbeld Main v Setby, Liversedge v Brigg Town. WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Folicestone Involte v Whistable; Sheppely v Constition, Sude Green v City. FA YOUTH CUP: Fourth round proper Octnom Ath v Milwell: Plymouth v Crysta Palace

Polace
SCHOOLS MATCHES (Notworf 2 0 unless stated) FA Premier Laegue under-18
Trophy: Nothing translate v Leicesteration at Budworth FC 77.15; English Schools Strickers under-19 Trophy: Second round: Barry Boys, South Glarmorgan v Bodmin Cossee Comwell. English Schools Geodyser under-16 Trophy: Heart of England: wider-16 Trophy:

Ulster v New South Wales (at Plavenhill, 7.30) Heineken League

Pirst division Neath v Aberavon WRU Midwaek Competition Pool A Abarcynon y Pontypool Pool B Nerbesth v Dunvans ... Caerphilly v South Wales Police Llanharan v Cardifi Inst......

Pool D Bonymaen v (Massleg ... Ystradgynlaid v Maesteg ... CLUB MATCH, Tradegar v Navicridge. RUGBY LEAGUE Kick-off 7.30

Sifk Cut Challenge Cup Fourth round
Whitehaven v Haldas.
Workington v Widnes..... JJB SPORTS ACADEMY INTER-NATIONAL: Great British Academy v France (at Hull KR)

OTHER SPORT OTHER SPORT
BASKETHALL National Cup: Semi-limit,
first leg: Crystel Palace v Shreffeld (B.0).
BCXGNG: British super-bardamweight
championephy: Richie Weston (Liverpool,
hocian v Wischn Dacharty (Glasgow)
(Besidon Festival Hall)
SNOOKER: Benson and Hedges Massers
(Wembley)
TENNIS: LTA women's salesse traumament
Sunderland! Borough v Keighley Albion; Wesverhern v Butwel; West Bowling v Widnes St Bades. Westgate Radoubt v Moorends; Underbank Rangers v Ideal A B I. **RUGBY UNION**

7.

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TOTAL PARTY

ITALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Rovigo 17 Milen 33; Piscenza 6 Trenso 11; Calvisano-34 Padova 10; Roma 23 San Dona 27; L'Aquilla 21 Mirano 3; Cabarila 28 Livorno 36.

GARMISCH-PARTENIGRICHEN: World Cupx Men: Super-G: 1, W Perathoner (II) Irrin 18.62act; 2, L Alphand (Fr) 1-19.83; 3. P Wirth (Austria) 1-20.05; equal 4, S Krausa (Gerl and J Lestonen (Fri) 1-20.90; 8, K Chedha (II) 1-20.57. World Cupp standings-Oversiti 1, 1. Kius (Nor) 974pts; 2, G Mader (Austria) 803; 3, M von Gruenige (Switz) 798; equal 4, Alphand and H Kreus (Austria) 688, 6, A Tombe (II) 816 Super-G: 1, Kreus 207; 2, A Skeardal (Nor) 200; 3, Kjus, 180; equal 4, R Nyberg (Swit) and R Kreuski (Austria) 151; 8, Alphand, 156

SNOOKER WEMBLEY CONTENTINCE CENTRE-Benson and Hedges Masters, First tound: J. Parrott, (Eng) by A Drapp (Maste) 6-5, 5 Dasts (Eng) bit K Doharty (Ire) 6-0: A Hiddle (Eng) bit D Roe (Eng) 5-2.

SWIMMING PAPUS: World Cup short-course meeting: Selected wiraness: Merr Freestyles Som: A Popole (Physa) 22.01sec. 100m: Popol 47.83. 200m: D Loeder (N2) 1-45.51.400m: Loeder 3.24-11 Branststoties: 50m: G Schrind (US) 28.14 100m: P Rogers (Aus) 1min 0.18ecc. 200m: Rogers 21.200. Backstoke: 100m: V Salov (Puss) 53.29ec. Buttelly: 50m: D Parlurator (Puss) 23.48. 200m: Parlerstor 192.24sec (world record). Individual meeting: 100m: D Sheeting (Aus) 50 19ecc. 200m: Medinski (Pol) 1min 58.03sec. Women: Freestyle: 50m: N Meschenyelcore (Russ) 25.29sec. 100m: D Zelweno (Lih) 55 31.200m: C Poli (C Fice) 1min 56.43sec. 400m: Poli 4.04 93. 900m: E Zechsressen (Don) 8.43.31. Breaststroke: 50m: N Dermisa (Aus) 31.20ecc. 100m: Dermisa (Pol) 1.7.33sec.8ackstroke: 50m: N Dermisa (Russ) 37.20esc. 100m: Dermisa (Russ) 37.20esc. 8ackstroke: 60m: N Reverticks: 8ackstroke: 60m: N Reverticks: 8ackstroke: 60m: N Reverticks: 8ackstroke: 60m: N Reverticks: 8ackstroke: 50m: N Rever 2. Tayer, sackaroke: 50m: (Russ) 28 7290. Beckstrake: 200m: H. Ficado (Fr) 2min 10.95esc. Butterfly: (100m: A Kennedy (kos) 50.95esc. 200m: C. Josenson (Fr) 2min 11.37esc. Individual mediay... 200m: E Overton (Aus) 2:13.40

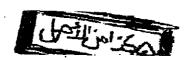
TABLE TENNIS

CAROTE: Welsh Open: Singles finale; Mee: B Billington (Derbys) bt C Prean (Isla of Wight) 21-19, 21-17. Women: N Deaton (Derbys) bt S Ruccco (Esset) 21-8, 21-12. TENNIS

ATP RANKINGS: 1, A Agent (US)
4,495pts; 2, T. Muster (Austria) 4,474; 3, P.
Sumpne (US) 4,465; 4, B Bector (Ger)
4,297; 5, M Cheng (US) 3,592; 6, Y.
Katenhilov (Huss) 2,709; 7, T Enquis (Swe)
2,519; 8, J. Counter (US) 2,400; 9, G.
Ivanisavic (Cro) 2,174; 10, W Ferreura (SA)
2,144

VOLLEYBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUR: Ment First division: Warnisck Riga (I Newcastle (Statis) 3, Solent 3 Manchester Utd Saford 1: Wessex 3 Rectool Leapper (I was a R



BHB stands firm over policy of customer-friendly meetings

Levy Board joins attack on fixtures

RACING'S rulers and paymasters were seriously at odds. yesterday over the Ladbrokes report which advocates important changes to the controversial "customer-friendly" fixture list

Rodney Brack, chief executive of the Horserace Betting Levy Board, confirmed the analysis produced by Britain's biggest bookmakers that switching dozens of meetings from afternoons to evenings had affected off-course betting turnover and all-important levy revenue, which underpins the sport's finances:

He disclosed the betting decline would contribute to the closure of 700 of the nation's 9,500 betting shops in 1996 and implicitly acknowledged the need for the fixture list to be fine tuned to satisfy the interests of the off-course betting industry as well as the needs of racecourses.

However, David Oldrey, the chairman of the British Horseracing Board (BHB) and mastermind of the fixture list, rebutted the central plank of Ladbrokes's financial analyais, warned of the dangers posed by their suggested re-forms to the fixture list - and insisted the principles behind his "customer-friendly" fixture

policy were correct. Switching meetings back to the afternoons was not "goodbusiness" for racing, he said. The fixture list had resulted in the best racecourse crowds for years. Overall, National Hunt's coffers had benefited from summer jump racing and Ladbrokes's recommendations - to have round-the-

year Flat racing — could be meetings from afternoons—catastrophic for jumping's when betting shops are relafinances.

it is disappointing to see so little actual response in substance from Ladbrokes, even if the rhetoric is a considerable. advance," Oldrey said.

"Perhaps it is as well to make clear that the BHB has no intention of going back on the principles of its customerfriendly fixture policy. That being so, it is impossible to fulfil more of Ladbrokes's

Nap: MOI CANARD (3.50 Lingfield Park) Next best: Roman Reel (4.20 Lingfield Park)

wish list for 1997 than we have already indicated we plan to do, in terms of restricting evenings to four per week as far as possible, consolidating Sunday fixtures into blocks and looking for a further smallreduction in the number of Wednesday and Thursday afternoons with two fixtures.

"Indeed, unless we sell jumping down the river, it will not happen thereafter until. there are more horses or more money [or both] available to us in making our plans at the BHB.

The Ladbrokes report highlighted how the switch of

tively full - to evenings and "We are making consider- Sundays - when more people able efforts to accommodate can go racing - had hit the views of the off-course, betting tornover and levy. It bookmakers in agreeing on cost an estimated £1.5 million guidelines for the 1997 list and in 1995. The absence of 102 in 1995. The absence of 102 third fixtures on weekday afternoons, compared to 64 in 1993, would deprive racing of potential levy earnings of E3

million, the report said. Brack disclosed that betting

turnover is expected to fall by 4 per cent this year, with levy yield dropping from £55 mil-lion to £48 million. While the National Lottery was largely to blame - Ladbrokes estimate it is responsible for 75 per cent of the fall - Brack confirmed "there is little doubt that the racecourse customerfriendly fixture list has also had an adverse effect on offcourse betting," and estimated that this year betting shops would fall from 9,500 to 8,800. With important talks over the shape of the 1997 fixture list due over the next few weeks, Brack added: "Racing is a spectator sport and we must not lose sight of that, but the objective should be to balance sufficient opportunities for racegoers with a programme which provides

"I believe there is scope for arranging the 1997 fixture list in a way which satisfies both the interest of the racecourse and the off-course betting market. Ladbrokes's report identifies some of the options."

the maximum levy income for



Brack confirmed that increase in evening fixtures had affected turnover

A LINCHE D. PARK

3.20 Comish Snow 3.50 TAEL OF SILVER (nap)

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.20 CORNISH SNOW. Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.20 Northern Miracle.

GUDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0402 6000 TMES 74 (CD,BF F,C,S) (Nas D Roberson) 8 Mail 9-10-0 . B West (4) 85

taxourile in latest race). Going no which house has som (F — lam, good to fam, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Transer. Ago and weight. Rodin plus: any adioversice.

GOING: STANDARD TOTE JACKPOT MEETING DRAW: 6F-1M. LOW NUMBERS BEST

1.50 CHERRY HANDICAP (£2,900: 1m 4f) (10 runners)

1995; MAJAL 6-8-3 D McZesows (13-2) J Wydniwydd 7 ab

FORM FOCUS

DNE OFF THE RAIL, 281 7th of 11 to Opera Bull in paradicap here (ARF, 7ss 51, on peruliamate start, REVER SO RATE 141 2nd of 7 to Sacrad Marcor in landicap over coorse and distance hard (ARF) and a 14 to Explosive Power in handicap here. (ARF) with UNICHARTERED WATERS (3to here the ALF) and 3 to Power in handicap at ROVAL CARCUS bear Gold Blade 214 in 13-worse analysis indept to the Collection (1m 41, Bmr) on peruliamate start, and realizable (1m 41, Bmr) on peruliamate start, with FATHER DAIN (7to heading at Ropen (1m 41 66yd, good to family on Salection: MEVER SO RATE

2.20 DAMSON SELLING STAKES (3-Y-0; £2.190; 61) (7 runners)

201 (5) 82:00-50 THE FRISKY FARMER & (F) (6 Buch) W 6 M Turner 9-5 ________ A Clark. 94
202 (7) 394-065 WHERMIT 14 (M.S) (6 General J Bridger 9-6 ________ J Charter 9-5
203 (1) 0-44255 COPPER BRIGHT 10 (B) (6 Sebn) P Historia B-12 _______ J Forture 9-6
204 (3) SOU4-23 ROMEAMISONS STUD 17 (Alter & Associates) 6 t Moore 8-12 M Fermin 9-6
205 (4) 6-0 COMMON DAVISE 20 (0 Credit C Neuroy 8-7 ______ R Cochrane 205 (2) 2400-56 ELFIX QUEEN 6 (J Abert) J t Harris 8-7 ______ J Weaver 9-7
207 (5) 0-4 MORTHERM MERCLE 12 (J Reschie) C Was 8-7 ______ G Davided 8-4
BETTIMET 7-2 Common Davise, 4-1 Copper Bright, 9-2 Rowlandcors Stud, 6-1 Ellin Queen, Northern Missocia, 7-1
The Frisky Farmer, 8-1 Wingrist.
1995 ROBO MAGIC 9-5 R Cochrane (9-1) 4 Moore 6 are

THE FRISKY FARMER 91/41 7th to Westman's Weigh in handicap at Wolvertrampton (AW, 6). COPPER BRIGHT Dest either this secon 1/4/12 and to expore course and distince (AW) 57. ROWM_ANDSONS STUD 11/4 2nd to Castle Bower or it learning over course and distince (AW) 57. NORTHERN MIRACLE about 125/14 were and distince (AW) 57. Descen in marken here (AW, 77. pseufymate start, COMMON DRIVINE 181 11% to Selection: ROWM_ANDSONS STUD

Body in select at Webberhampton (AW, 50, ELFN CLIEEN shoot 554 5th to Mess Carotiene in hand-cap over course and distince (AW) on primitienate said, with WINGREDT (27th sense off) 161 6th MORTHERN MIFRACLE about 1254 4th to Double-Du-Sense in maiden here (AW 70)

2.50 PLUM CLAIMING STAKES (£3,023: 1m 2l) (10 runners)

(5) 001550 - YUERALET FSJ (6) (7) Jahressal M Pipe 4-9-11 ... A Whates (3) 78 (4) 153550 - CHARAN DANCER 15J (3) (7) Jürs R Cobbudo M Pipe 4-9-0 ... R Cochrade 76 (8) 012-052 SWEET SUPPOSM 18 (V.C.G) (Mars C Revons) C Duyer 5-9-0 ... L Detton (5) 654-263 PERLOUS PUSHT 12 (C.F.S) (7) Hates) W Mars 6-8-0 ... J Water 97 (3) 000-130 HAMED OF STRAW 10 (V.G) (Mis L Murphy) P Membry 4-9-7 ... S Drownt (3) 97 (7) 131000 - EL ATREMOD 77 (CD.S) (R Reity) M Water 6-8-6 ... J Stack (3) 92 (11) 313-111 MASSIUN 10 (CD.F.G.S) (R Page) R O'Soliven 11-8-8 ... A CDark 98 (5) 0000-03 ZMO R YER 12 (V) (A Macre) A Macre 4-8-2 ... C Roter 86 (5) 0000-03 ZMO R YER 12 (V) (A Macre) A Macre 4-8-1 ... Lora Wands (7) 75 (2) 6000-03 SCOTTISH PARK 10 (CD.F.G.S) (Clearherm Ltd) J L Harts 7-7-11 ... J Order 90 1005-111 J Massing 7-2 September 9-2 Parliers Plant 7-7 Vetroires Scottish Park 7 June Piert 10-1

3.20 NECTARINE MADEN STAKES (£3,615: 71) (12 numbers)

(7) 6 SKOWTME BLUES 20 (Mas A Event) A Belly 7-9-10.

(5) 5300-00 DONT GET CAUGHT 18 (Mas P MacRob) J L Harte 4-9-5.

(12) 08280-0 TAKESHE 19 (V) (J Instrumen) W Mole 4-9-5.

(10) 5 BARANOV 25 (Mas S Nesh) D Mauray Synds 3-8-7.

(6) 4 CORPUSS \$100W 123 (Spied) Moltament) D Loder 3-8-7.

(11) 0- VALSESS 123 (Mrs R Binle) D O'Bries 3-8-2.

FORM FOCUS

CALL TOPHORSE 10/61 4th of 13 to Farmost in malden at Wohentemption (AW, 61) with GIFTBOX 13/61 Bib. DESERTI WATER 794 6th of 13 to Mister Raidor in conditions sone here (AW, 6) OFFICE HOURS 56 last of 14 to Ring Of Times in handicap (AW). BARANOV about 11/5/6 5th of 12 to Welf Deam in malded here (AW). TAL CORNIST SNOW MISH And of 11 to Middleight Bibs in maiden at Asset here (AW, 1M 2). DOINT GET GAUGHT 45/6 4th of 19 to Write Scorel in benchcap at Southwelf (AW, Selection: CORNISH SNOW)

3.50 GREENGAGE HANDICAP (£3,518: 61) (11 runners)

1995: SIR TASKER 7-9-3 S Sanders (20-1) J Harris 9 cm

FORM FOCUS

SR TASKER 5%1 4th of 8 to Primula Bairo in claims at Widenfrangion (AW, 54), ROBO MAGIC 68 and of 13 to Cheert in handicap over course and distance (AW). On peaulitrate stant, LOCHON heat handsalow 2 in 11-runner handicap over course and distance (AW). The result Statebook in conditions seen the handsalow 2 in 11-runner handicap over course and distance (AW). and distance (AVM).
WARM REARTED about 3%1 5th of 16 to Kisa in conditions used all Southwell (AVM, 61) with TAEL OF

4.20 PEACH AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP (\$2,955: 1m) (12 runners)

BETTINE: 9-4 Dignest, 5-1 Timpe Nem, 6-1 Rosson Read, 8-1 Cent Drop Bombs, 10-1 Montone, Dearn Carner, 10-1 Centry Februar, PC's Couley, 12-1 Love Legend, 14-1 others.

1895; MERTALASANYTHIN 6-11-9 Misss Bodyet Galebouse (7-2) A Bailey 9 can

FORM FOCUS

DISPAST best Four O' Spades 20/4 in amateur pales' handicap over course and distance (AW) with DREAM CARRER (Sib better di) 41 Standard based lase) 19/4 4th, LONG LEESTED (Sib better di) (distre dispunktied and placed lase) 19/4 4th, LONG LEESTED (Sib better di) (flater promoted to 40%) 41 Sib and JON'S CHOICE (Sib better di) 79/4 Bib. TRASIC HERO based Samplesi 11 in claiming bandicap of down young (im 2, good to farm) on penulimade start, ROMAN REEL 21 2nd of 8 to Oozlean ni apprehittet

lockeys, havelean over course and distance (AW). CANARY FALCON 101 The of 13 to Real Macinal in tending there (AW), Im 2); OWIDEETTS about 15 86 of 9 to Deason (A AR Back in hardisan over course and distance (AW), PC'S CRIMISTER FALL 3rd of 10 to Kingstin Boy in handlings at Southwell (AW, 1cm) DOW'T DRUP BOMES Sivil and of 13 to Royal Chross to window ridges, handling here (AW, 1cm) DOW'T DRUP BOMES Sivil and of 13 to Royal Chross to window ridges, handling here (AW, 1cm) DOW'N BONTOME 21 4th.

COURSE SPECIALISTS 37.5 26.7 23.1 21.1 20.5 17.5 25.5 23.8 19.8 18.8 17.9 17.4 239 22 21 16 20 115

Rich reserves

DUBAL racing authorities have announced a new £500,000 event to precede the Dubai World Cup, on March 27. The Emirates Airline International is open to reserves

for the £4 million showpiece.

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Salter banned after drugs test

ditional jockey, yesterday be-came the second rider to fail a drogs test. Salter's urine was found to contain cannabinolds after he was asked to provide a sample at Chenstow on November 22 last year.

The 23-year-old rider was banned for 21 days by the Jockey Club's disciplinary committee starting on Thursday. Salter said: "I deeply regret having had to appear before the disciplinary committee. The positive finding of cannabis came from my un-knowingly consuming the

drug in cake form at a party.
"I believe my explanation has been accepted by the committee and is reflected in

Tor less than a month." He follows apprentice Sean

after traces of cannabis and amphetamines were found in his urine sample: By coincidence, the Jockey

Club's medical adviser, Dr Michael Turner, has launched an education programme for jockeys with information on several subjects, including drug aware-ness, weight control and nutrition. The programme contains a booklet produced by the charity Liteline, that has been sent to all apprentice and conditional jockeys Three said: There is not the slightest evidence that

jockeys are taking drugs on a larger scale than other individuals in this age group. In

Jockey Club. After a 42-hour inquiry, trainer Len Lungo and jockey Tim Reed were exonerated from committing a breach of rule 151 of the rules of racing over the running and riding of Livio at Haydock last December. The gelding, a 14-1 chance, was described as "never placed to challenge" by the official form book and eventually finished eighth, beaten 19 lengths.

The matter was referred to the Jockey Club after Livio had subsequently won at Catterick a week later, when sent off the 6-4 favourite. Lungo said: "Considering the difference in quality of the Haydock and Catterick races, tions that the problem is dropped 4b in error between considerably smaller in rac- the races by the handicapper, McCarthy, who was banned ing than in society at large." the win came as no surprise."

suggests the best value in the ante-post market **GUIDE TO THE LEADING PRICES** CORP. Mary TON. TON

RACING AHEAD

Robert Wright

John Spearing's mare has since disappointed at Haydock, when south behind Thornton Gate, but the form details Ladbrokes and the Tote, ESKIMO NEL offers outstanding

The Tote Gold Trophy at Newbury on Saturday, known for

THEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT Irving Rose was one of Britain's most successful players for many years. He played in this year's Macallan International Pairs with Chris Convery, who was in the South African team which reached the last eight of the 1995 Marlboro Bermuda Bowl. This hand is a good example of the worst and best aspects

of Rose's game. Rose was South. Love all Dealer South ¥62 + 10 6 5 **4987654** £1098752 **€**KJ63 **₹Q1084** +Q9B **#** 10 2 . +03 +4 ¥AJ93 ♦AKJ72

Contract: Six Diamonds by South Lead: the king of spades

When North continued with one more diamond and then a Three Diamonds over South's second club, and finally two Hearts it was reasonable crossed to the dummy with the for South to make a slam try. ten of diamonds and ran the However Six Diamonds was West does better to duck the too precipitate. As it happens, jack of diamonds, but Rose

Six Clubs is the best slam, although it is difficult to reach. West surprisingly led the king of spades, though if he had led small Rose could still have followed the same line by finessing. Rose won, played a club to the king and laid down the jack of diamonds. In practice West took this and played another spade. Rose discarded the jack of clubs on

would probably have still made the contract if West gave any indication he held the queen - he cashes a second chib and leads low towards the ten of diamonds, and plays

Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

By Philip Howard CAPSID

b. Self-discipline a. A dentist

b. An envelope c. A small cap b. A Flemish enthusiast ் Flammabble

KEENE on CHESS CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Women's championship The world championship for women is currently in progress in the Spanish town of Jaen. In the first round the defending champion, Xie Jun of China, defeated her challenger, Zsuzsa Polgar from Hungary, the eldest of the three prodigious Polgar sis-ters. Two further draws fol-

lowed after which Polgar equalised the score in game White: Zsuzsa Polgar Black: Xie Jun Women's world championship, January 1996

Benko's Opening

2 Bg2 3 e4 4 Ne2 Nc6 11 Nbc3 12 txe5 Pot1+ 13 : Odf RJ8 14 h3 16 hxg4 17 gxl4 18 Qe2 19 Ql2 Nock4 Ng6 c6 Rdi

Note Kvæ6 Kb6 Ke7 Ne4 Ke5 Ke5 Ng3 h5 h4 58 Bd1

Poxd1 Nd6

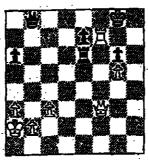
Kd8 Kc7 Kb7



Monday to Priday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday

By Raymond Keene White to move. This position is from the game Byrne - Tarjan, USA 1975. How did the white queen and rook combine to score a quick knockout?

Solution on page 46



Ascot card threatened

meeting, has also accounted

for today's fixtures at Carlisle

Tomorrow's other turf meet-ing, at Ludlow, will inspect

today, at 9am, but officials at Wolverhampton are hopeful

that the all-weather Flat fix-

ture will go ahead in spite of

and Warwick

the threat of snow.

THE televised meeting at As- yesterday's Newton Abbot cot tomorrow is under threat from the cold snap, with an inspection being held at 11.30 this morning to determine prospects. The course is frozen, and Nick Cheyne, the clerk of the course, said: "The forecast is for snow tonight - I

Severe frost, which claimed

LESTERDAYS RESULTS \$2.00, \$2.10, \$5.00 DF, \$12.70. Trio: \$54.20, CSF \$40.83. Treast, \$327.07. CSF 640.83. Treast, 5327.07.

3.30 (1m) 1, PINE RIDGE LAD (R. Lappin, 13-2); 2, Maple Bay (P. Roberts, 7-2); -lav); 3, High Premium (A. Cufrume, 12-1); ALSO RAM 7-2; -lav 1-3; ALSO RAM 7-2; -lav 1-3; ALSO RAM 7-2; -lav 1-3; -l GOLULI WELL
Going: standard
1.30 (75), CHADLEIGH LANE (F Lynch,
4-1); 2. Desere (M Deeting, 6-4 p-lan); 3.
Serious Fact (G Duffield, 9-4 p-lan); ALSO
PARN 8 Genesis Four (413), 12 Seconds
Away, 16 My Godson (81), 20 Double Glow
Shi), 33 Chrowing Tim. Pats Delight, Persan
Gustier, Streool, Supercool, 12 Jan. 4, 354,
154, (K.I. At Holdinshined of Utber Longdon,
Tote: \$5.80; £1.90, £1.30, £1.10 DF: 28.00
This £4.70, CSF £13 15. Theast £21.72 4.00 (8f) 1, SEA DEVIL (I. Chamock, 4-5 fev, Alto (sg. 1), see Detail, IV. committed, 4-5 series Of Priority (Alex Greenes, 3-1); 3, La Dama (M McAnchew, 100-1), ALSO RAM - 4 Desert Investor (4th), 9 Our Shades (5th), 50 Brantsion Nitsy (6th), 6 ran 4, 1 NJ, NJ, NJ, 25 M Camacho at Melibon, Tole 51 St. 61 30, 82-50 DE - 23 0, CSF 52 83, 40 CM - 1 SMEET MATER C Tools 13 25: 6130, 22-50 DF: P230, CSF 52 63.
4.30 (7) 1, SWEET MATE (C Tenque, 13-2; 2, 14 Rock; 1, Cherrock, 11-2; 3, Custral Mertin (A Mackey, 10-1) ALSO RAN: 7-2 tev Cabcharge Blue, 5. The Meshat, 13-2 Antisome Vermer, 7 Indehra (SM), 8 Mezzoramo (40), 12 Prinerion Polis (60), 16 Speedy Snapo Pride, 20 Ohmonologan, 11 ran, 51 hd, 194, 194, 11, 31 Shoump et Marsfeld Tote 65.50; 52.50, 52.30, 52.30. DF: 530-40. The CSS 200 CSF 643 02. Incorat E337.02.

Title: 24.70. CSF 213 15. Tricest: 221.72
2.00 (2m) 1, RECORD (LOVER) (Mr. S. Booley, 10-1); 2. Greek Might: Out falles: Dierra Jones, 13-8 (sw); 3. Youngo (Mr. D. Kentiswell, 4-4, ALSO RAN 15-2 Gentlemen Set (4th), 7. McConstrine Dancer (5th), 14 Mrs. Javington, 16 Bushelm, 20 Air Commend, 33. Meant Times (8th), 9 zan. 54, 134, 22, 254, 71. M. Chaptean at Market Resent. Tone: 59 80: 62-20, 61 to, 51 dec. 51 ft. 170. 18 00. CSF: 527 20. Tricest: 548.49.
2.30 (61) 1. COASTGUARDS. HERO (M. Wigham, 4-1); 2. Principal Boy (G. Carter, 10-1); 3. General Herom (J. Wester, 7-1) ALSO RAN. 5-2 (sw. Red Acusta (8th), 3. Chillent, 11 Gene. Sift, 101 (18th), 12 Cultimeters (4th), 18 Kury (6th, 20 Headingards Jade 9 ran. 14, hr. 17, 2. 784. M. Usher at Sets Geneton. Tone: 58.90, 22.10, 53.60, 52.10, DF: 523.80 Title: 255.40, CSF 540.42.

Tris: ESS-40. CSF-1940-42.
3.00 (1m 3f) 1, TEMPERRING (A Cultume, 7-1); 2, Caldor Ring IJ Forture, 5-1); 3, Ster Parlormar (G Certis, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 4-1 (s.ter Merchascanymin Rin); Our Tom Sini, 6 Ferr Terrior, 10 Heaveur (4th), 12 Bulk For Comport, 20 Jacy's Dissm. Signed Greek Gall. Addition, 32 Servane Cay, 12 ran. No. 11, 76, 34, 161 D Chepman at York Toter E7 00;

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Lingheid Peric 250 Zuno Fiyer 3.20 Takeria, Deserl Water. 4.20 Carrey Falcon. 24hr sking information direct from the resorts in:

Jackpot: 527,642.20. Placepot: £13.20.

The meeting at Newton Abbot was abendoned because of trost.

Duadoot: £12.50.

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Scottish ski resorts

EXODONTIST

FLAMINGANT

8. A fierry ant

Answers on page 46

b. A signpost

the queen of spades, cashed

ASCESIS a. Yellow Virgina creeper

THE TIMES TUESDAY FEBRUARY 6 1996

Smiling team of Formula One seeks out new roots with Sicilian pageant

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Schumacher leaves **Benetton looking** back to the future

FROM OLIVER HOLT IN TAORMINA, SICILI

team began life after Michael Schumacher here yesterday by swapping their roaring cars for a horse and cart. In a day laden with symbols of renewal and rebirth, they launched their attempt to retain the world constructors' and drivers' championships won so convincingly last year by creating a new identity for

They colonised this small. chic resort town in the shadow of Mount Etna. bedecked it with posters and flags and used it to bathe in their recently established Italian nationality and the Sicilian heritage of their new stat driver, Jean Alesi. In a riot of pomp and celebration that cost more than £1 million, they made a clean break with their glorious past to make a show of going back to their roots.

Formula One had never een a launch like it. It began in an ampitheatre used by the Romans to stage gladiatorial combat with the unveiling of the car that Alesi and his team-mate, Gerhard Berger, will drive this season against the might of Ferrari and Schumacher, and the championship favourites, Williams and Damon Hill. The blue drape was pulled away in a flourish to reveal the Benetton-Renault on a pedestal against backdrop of huge stone

columns and a majestic view. Then Alesi and Berger drove their cars through alleys so narrow they made the streets of Monaco look like sixlane highways, besieged by a delighted and clamouring crowd. After they had completed a pit-stop in a piazza, the drivers leapt into a cart and were led back through the

throng by a white horse adorned by a head-dress of ostrich feathers. It seemed like a medieval feast day.

The event was a prime example of the Benetton philosophy of taking the sport to the people. Journalists were flown in from all over the world to witness the team embracing its Italian nationality. "We are a team now with a heart that beats in Italian." Alessandro Benetton said. But we communicate all over the world in different languages. It is important we carry on as the smiling team in Formula One."

The prospect of Frank Williams, the Williams team owner, and his technical director. Patrick Head, facing manslaughter charges over the death of Ayrton Senna at the San Marino Grand Prix in May 1994 receded yester day. Italian legal sources said that it was "increasingly unlikely" that any action would be brought against them.

At the centre of the festivities was Alesi, the man Benetton have singled out as possessing the charisma and driving style to lessen the trauma of Schumacher's departure. The new man was treated as a returning hero by the thousands who lined the Corso Umberto, the main thoroughfare. One group of supporters danced in front of his car holding up a banner thatread:

'Alesi, your hour has come."
In his four years at Ferrari, Alesi never quite fulfilled the great expectations he had built up in his short time at Tyrrell.

Benetton managing director, has taken him to his heart, determined to create the supportive atmosphere many feel he needs to thrive. Although born in Avignon, in France, his parents were both natives of Sicily and he was christened Giovanni. And so the idea of a launch here was conceived.

that, although he and Berger are supposed to enjoy equal status within the team. Alesi may be more equal than the Austrian. The team is adamant that both will be treated the same, but Berger may find himself struggling to compete. "I used to come here as a

child for holidays." Alesi said, "but I never imagined I would ever be here driving a Formula One car through the streets. It was an amazing feeling being so close to the people and being able to feel their

"When I was with Ferrari, I was with a really top team. But, by joining Benetton, I know I have joined a winning team. They have won the drivers world championship for the last two years and I have to work now to be able to continue this level of success.

"I leel I have a chance to do my best again now and be able to do something really good. It is a strong feeling. I know that I have great possibilities at Benetton and my ambition to be world champion is clear." At the end of a day that was

rowned by the presentation of last year's championship trophy by Max Mosley, president the International Motor Sport Federation (Fia). Briatore was exultant, "Before, no one knew whether we were English or Italian," he



Berger drives the new Benetton-Renault through the streets of Taormina yesterday

Of butter and baby boobies

Professor Jean Aitchison is not good news for linguistic purists. She foresees the time when glottal-stop words such as "buh er" will win out over "butter", and end-of-word consonants will disappear. As out over "butter", and end-of-word consonants will disappear. As evidence, she conjures up the voices of Cilla Black and Lenny Henry. If you think you hear chairs clinking during her lecture, it is because she busies herself cutting the links that bind the English language to the past. To illustrate her disapproval of linguistic rigidity, she chooses a metaphor that even a dullard can understand—the Galapagos blue-footed baby booby that never learns the lesson that falling out of its nest can have fatal results.

Cara Miz: The David Whitfield Story. Radio 2, 9.00pm:

On what would have been his 70th birthday if he had lived, the popular singer David Whitfield is fondly remembered in Stephen Pairinson's radio biography, narrated by his contemporary Dennis Lotis. I must confess I was not over-fond of his voice. He was one of Lous. I must contest I was not over-fond of his voice. He was one of those soaring and tremulous tenors much employed in Hollywood musicals of the 1930s and 1940s: Allan Jones and Dick Powell were among his precursors; as was George Guetary and, at his worst, Richard Tauber: But what I thought about David Whitfield is neither here nor there really because he was the nation's favourite right enough, and in 1955 because the first British male vocalist to be awarded a gold disc.

Peter Davalle

ar Britain 8.30 Pen .00 Cara Mis: the David Whitfield Story. ies Choice 10.00 Explorer 2 10.30 The

5.00em Morning Preports 6.00 The Brealdast Programme, incl 6.55, 7.55 racing preview 8.35 The Magazine, incl 10.35 Euronews 11.30 Dirty News 12.00 Madday with Mair, Incl 12.34pm Monsycheck 1.15 Entertainment News s 4.00 John Inverdale Natio The Tuesday Match 10.05 News Talk

TALK RADIO 6.00em Sandy Werr 7.00 Strom Betes 10.00 Jonathan King: 12.00 Torrny Boyd 2.00pm Anna Raeburn 4.00 Scott Chistom 7.00 Sean Bolger 9.00 Moz

6.00am On Air. Gluck (Ballet:

Symphony No 1 in D):

Tell); Blow (God spake... rell); Blow (God spake...

Concerto)

Moming Collection with

Paul Gambaccini. Poulenc
(Flute Sonata); Grieg
Solveig's Song, Peer Gynt;
Liszt (Pastorale; Au bond
d'une source; Orage, Années
de pèleninage); Chalusson
(Poème de l'amoùr et de la

Musical Encouragers, Mayhust (incite tos); Alkan (Le Féstin); 10.18 Artist of the Week: Nancy Argerta, soprano. Chabrier (Four songs); 10.30 Marin. (Ballade); 10.44 Brahms, orch

Composers of the Week: Les Six Safe (Parade); Taillefare (Premières prouesses; String Quartet); Mithaud (Chamber

Alimado (Chamber Symphonies: No 1, Printemps; No 2, Pastorale), Poulanc (Sonata for piano

1.00pm The BBC Orchestras

BBC Symphony Orchestra under Andrew Davis. Dukas (La Péni; D'Indy (Isser); Franck (Les Eolides) 2.00 Schoots: Playtime 2.15 Time to Move 2.35 Lister! 3.00 Dictributilible. Schubert's song cycle for voice and

song cycle for voice and

piano (1) 3.35 The BBC Orchestras. The

5.65cm Shipping Forecast (LW only) 6.00 News Briefing incl Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day, with the Very Rev Gliessburg Macmillan 6.30 Today incl 7.25, 8.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather

Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Call Nick Ross

9.00 News 9.05 Call Nick Ross 0171-580 4444
10.00-10.30 News Crimescapes (FM only). Stockholm. On a dismal November right, nine people are brushly murdered on a Stockholm bus. Leisle Forbes invasigates the crime invaried by writer Maj Sjowell, whose novels hold a minor to Swedish society, reflecting it from a communist point of view

10.00 a communas pora or view 10.00 Daily Service (LW cnly) 10.15 This Sceptr'd iste (LW cnly) 10.30 Women's Hour. Introduced by Jenni Munay 11.30 Medicine Now. With Geoff

Watts 12.00 News; You and Yours 12.25pm Word of Mouth, Russell

Europe Today 5.00 Newsday 5.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 Off the Shelf 7.30 New Ideas 7.50 The Planets 8.00 News 8.10 Words of Faith 8.15 International Recital 8.00 News in 11.30 Thiny-Mirute Drame 12.00 News 12.05pm Business Report 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Your Brain Changes Shape 1.00 Newshour 2.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Multirack: Hit List 3.00 News Newscissk 6.30 News in German 7.00. Newscissk 6.30 News in German 7.00. News 7.01 Cutjook 7.25 Words of Faib 7.30 Meganik: 8.00 Newscissk News 9.05 Business Report 9.15 Shisir Today 9.30 Meridian 19.00 Newscissk 19.70 Newscissk T1.10 Invitation to the Danc 11.15 Anything Goes 11.45 County Style Wildmight Nemedesk 12.30em What's News? 12.45 Brasin Today 1.00 News 1.10 Press Review 1.15 On Screen 1.30 Western Music 2.20 Newsday 2.20

5.15 In Tune. From the Festival of American Music and Arts in

Glasgow, with Brian Morton 7.30 Pubble Milli, Dmitri Alexaev.

piano. Schubert (12 German Dances: Klavierstück in E flat

minor); Schubert, Iransc Liszt (Sei mir gegrüsst, Auf dem Wasser zu singen; Du bist die Ruh; Aufenthait,

Schwanengeseng); 8.15-Derek Watson considers Liszt's thoughts on his

Waltz No 1)
9.30 History Now and Then
Nationalism, John Breuilly and
Antifony Smith examine the
historical origins of the nation

9.50 The BBC Orche

The BBC Orchestras. BBC
Sympbony Orchestra-under
Stanisław Storwaczewski.
Lutoslawski (concerto for
Orchestra): Parudnik
(Nocume, 1955)

10.45 Hight Waves, Humphrey Carperier talks to Ann Douglas 11.30-12.30em Music Restored. The Palladian Erestored

perform music by
Suonamente, Turini, Rebel
and Bach
1.00-1.40 Night School. Dance
for PE

accounts and numerous other documents concerning his life. Christopher Page puts liest on the bones of this alusive genus; (r)

3.00 The Afternoon Shift.
Gabrielle Sanders, explores, community policing in Brighton's gay village (1/2)

4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope, Paul Vsuchan bills in the

publishes a new book on crime and sees Athor

RADIO 4

Liszz's moughts on his musical forebears; 8.35 Liszt (Variations on a Theme of Bach, Weinen, Klageo; Nuages gris; Recautilement; RW — Venazis; Mephisto

1

Whitehead gets an Olympic run for his money



McColgan: chosen for

PETER WHITEHEAD, the leading ed yesterday for his personal financial commitment to his athletics when he was chosen to run in the Atlanta Olympic Games. Alan Warner, the chairman of Great Britain's marathon selectors, described Whitehead as "a journeyman runner who has made all the sacrifices".

On the strength of a best time of 2hr 17min. at the age of 29. Whitehead gave up his job, remortgaged his house, left his wife working in a bank in Leeds and went to Albuquerque, where heat and altitude provided him with an

finished fourth in the world championships in Gothenburg. It was a steamy day but the closest African finished and heat of Atlanta hold no fears for

Since Gothenburg, Whitehead has remortgaged his house again and turned down \$20,000 (about £13,000) to compete in Korea next month. His debts are mounting, especially after another spell in Albuquerque and spending more than £1,000 on treatment for a pelvic injury. His selection yesterday was conditional on him proving his fitness in a "competitive"

half-marathon by May 31. "I have been paying for my rent,

ideal training environment. Nine paying to live, and paying for treatmonths later, in August last year, he ment, while Sandra his wife| has been living in Leeds," Whitehead, now back in Britain for specialist advice, said. "I could have done the marathon in money, which would have sorted me out financially, but it would have

risked bringing the injury back on. "It could have jeopardised my Olympics so I am saying 'no'. I am putting everything on the line for Atlanta."

The other runner selected yesterday. Richard Nerurkar, the 1993 World Cup winner, has also been injured but has almost recovered. He, too, must prove his fitness in a half-marathon by May

Only two of the three places have been filled, so the announcement

Evans, Gary Staines and Jon Solly will contest the Flora London Marathon on April 21 is timely. The remainder of the Britain Olympic squad will be annormen a week la er. 1 wo women wil be added to join Liz McColgan, named yesterday, plus reserves.

Warner insisted that London did not constitute a run-off and that "performances in the type of conditions that are going to pertain in Atlanta" remained important

However, any Briton winning in London would surely have to be picked. Disquiet yesterday that Nerurkar has been selected prematurely would reach a crescendo if, with only one place left, two men beat 2hr 10min, which no Briton has since 1989.

Hicks rises to the occasion

BY PHILYATES

ANDY HICKS, whose best performances tend to coincide with the game's showpiece occasions, enjoyed an excep-tional debut in the Benson and Hedges Masters snooker tournament when he beat David Roe 5-2 in their wild-card playoff match at Wembley Conference Centre yesterday. Hicks, who earned a spon-

sor's invitation to the event by reaching the semi-finals of the world and UK championships last year, became only the second player to compile three century breaks in a best-ofnine-frame contest since the event began in 1975. Runs of 67, 102 and 63

propelled Hicks into a 3-1 lead before he won the sixth and seventh frames with runs of

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FLAMINGANT

EXODONTIST

125 and 103. It was a feat only previously achieved by Stephen Hendry during a 5-4 second-round victory over Ken Doherty in 1993,

"It seems as though good conditions and the atmosphere at a big venue always help to raise my game. I can't

PORD-WATCHING THE

(b) The practice of self-discipline. From the Greek askesis exercise, training, askein to visit one's personal trainer. The charm of ascesss, of the austere and serious girding of the loins

EAUDONTIST

(a) A tooth-puller or dentist, from the Greek ex-out + odous, odont- a tooth. Exodontia is the extraction of teeth. So an exodontist is a specialist in exodontia. "The development of skill in inducing anesthesia has made it possible to perform the oftimes intricate phases of exodontia in such a manner as to grant the patient freedom from the sensation of pain." If you believe that, you'll believe anything, as Jane Russell said to Bob Hope playing a timid dentist in The Paleface.

(h) A tiny shell or envelope for holding such infinitesimal things as proteins, from the Latin cupsa a box. "Capsid is the quasi-crystalline shell, built up by the regular arrangement of capsomeres, to produce the structure that is the stable and

(b) An advocate of the recognition of Flemish as an official

(b) An advocate of the recognition of recents as an outreat language of Belgium, or of the exclusive use of Flemish in certain parts of Belgium. From the French stammage Flemish-speaking. Outch Vlaming. "Militant Flamingantism had been able to come to power in some municipalities."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE Oh3! Kxf7 2 Qh7+ KeS 3 Qh8+ and the black queen is lost.

remember ever playing better than that and it was one of those days when everything fell into place." Hicks, who plays James Wattana in the second round, said.

Rarely during the 1990s, a decade in which he has been replaced by Hendry as the outstanding player in the game, has Steve Davis taken a match by the scruff of the neck as he did during a 6-0 whitewash of Doherty on Sunday evening. Davis, employing a new cue slightly longer than the one with which he has failed to win a title for 13 months, exuded confidence with breaks of 65, 88, 104, 73 and 78.

"Suddenly the game is ef-fortless again," Davis said. He described playing with the 17 cunce, two-piece model designed for him by John Parris, London cue-smith, as "heaven".

"I have struck a purple patch and it's great occasionally to throw off the chains that have tied me down." Davis, six times the world champion, said. Davis has fallen from second to ninth in the provi-

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THE *** TIMES SENICE.

Davies presents a series about words and the way we speak Today, a look at the language of the double entendre (3/6) 12.5s Westher 1.00 The World at One 1.40 The Archest (4) 1.55 States Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping 2.00 News; Journeys into Space: Space Fictions.

that was known of the 18th-cartury English composer Nicholas Ludiord was his exquisite music. Then music historian David Skinner

discovered Ludford's will, his

Conquering Cyberspace
2.30 The Search for Nicholas
Ludford, Until recently, all

Song
4.45 Short Story: The Graffit
Quesh of Adelaide Terrace,
by Bernadette Crostfwelle;
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast
5.55 Weather
5.55 Weather 5.09 Shr O'Clock News 6.30 Any Other Business (4/6) (7 7.00 News 7.05 The Archers 7.20 File on 4 5.00 Science New 8.20 The 4600 Science New 8.30 The 1996 Reith Lectures -tine Language Web. See

Choice 9.00 in Touch 9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) 9.59 Weather 10.00 The World Tonight, With isabel Filton 10.45 Book at Beddine: God

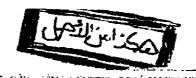
Stand Up for Bestards Journalist and author David Leich reads his

11.00 Mediumwaye (r)
11.00 Mediumwaye (r)
11.00-12.00 The Street (FM only)
High Sheet, Bottesford (3/6)
11.30 Today in Parliament (LW

only)
12.00 News incl 12.27em Weather
12.30 The Late Book: Rest. Shiv Greval reads Romesh Quinesakera's first novel (2/7) 12-48 Shipping Forecast 1,00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-98.8. RADIO 2: FM 88 9. 90.2. RADIO 2. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.8; 1W 198; My 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 888; LW 198 (12.45-5-56 m). CLASSIC FM: FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1216. TALK RADIO UK, MW 1053, 1085. Television and radio fistings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Maney, Rossmary Smith and Susan Thomson.

If they're so intelligent they can look after themselves for a night. Hosted by Dom and Kirk. Wild Phone-ins, Strange interviews Pigsty Bosom Buddies starring



Sometimes doctors seem to be out of order

he next set of hospital wards to reopen ought to be devot-L ed to image transplants for the medical establishment, a body which is suffering from rigor mortis of the communication joints. No group of people on the British landscape, with the possible exception of politicians, is more adept at making a reasonable case sound like pompousstonewalling.

Take for example last nights Cutting Edge. The Treatment (Channel 4). On the one hand we had Cari Loder, the vivacious and confident young woman who may have sumbled upon a treatment for multiple sclerosis.

The facts of the matter are that Loder, having developed MS at the age of 31, went to her doctor for antidepressants and, shortly after taking the drugs (along with others prescribed for the MS) found that all of her symptoms went into

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Loder has turned into a one-woman band of hope. Hundreds of other MS sufferers contacted her and many of them have had similar results. After a long battle with indifference, a drugs company has at last agreed to carry out clinical trials.

Whether Loder's "cure" is real or psychosomatic or a mere fluke I this is what I did and this is how I am now. One might think that the medical powers that be, faced with a ctipple who has taken up her bed and walked, would hurry round to find out more, to investigate.

Alas Here is Professor Ian

McDonald, a distinguished practitioner from the Institute of Neurology: "In 90 per cent of patients" there is spontaneous remission which, occurring in the earlystages, is complete."

No doubt this statement is

cine in its battle for public sympathy? And how exactly does that response square with the case of Sarah Rose, an MS sufferer for 27 years, whose symptoms dramatically declined within weeks of starting to use the Loder

treatment? The key point is a broader one. know not Loder herself makes no Professor McDonald and his kind claims, beyond: this is how I was, are right to be sceptical, otherwise every half-baked notion would the limbs or pouring down the throats of patients desperate for a to that which is good for us and will be sure to let us know when

ne problem with such public expression of this scepticism is that it has the reverse effect from the one intended. It drives us towards alternative sources of comfort, be they ever so wacky. It encourages the belief that the medical establishment accurate but is it the kind of regards itself as having sole access 

Peter Barnard

and if some suitable tablets can be brought down from the mountain. In public relations terms, this leads to a case of the devil having all the best tunes. Loder's massive personality thrusts aside doubt when she had a minor attack of MS symptoms late in the filming of this documentary, she put it down to stress. Well, maybe. Looked at clinically, the attack first time, from a rare interview he perhaps reinforced what Professor McDonald had to say. But by then I would hazard that most viewers had entirely forgotten him, except as a vague figure standing in the way of what they wished to believe. The present series of Omnibus

(BBC1) has produced some excellent films and A Day on The Mountain continued the run. Omnibus took a poet, a painter and a photographer to interpret Saint Victoire, the mountain in Provence which became an obsession for

One of the points to emerge, notably through the relative honesty of the camera lens as the photographer set up his shot, was that Cézanne always painted the mountain proportionately much larger than it really is, much like a child recalling the house in which

The film also used some words of Cezanne, brought to light for the gave 100 years ago. He explained his passion for detail and the reason he revisited so many subjects so many times: "The same subject seen from a different angle gives a study so varied that I think I could be fully occupied simply by

bending a little more to the right or the left." Cézanne's real and only subject, whatever appeared on the canvas. was paint and painting. Colour, light, shade and their relationships. In these matters he was a genius, recognised as such at the highest level: "In heaven, they know I am Cézanne." I cannot think what he meant by that but I am sure he was right.

A hannel 4's series Classic Ships took fishing boats for its second part and took some licence with the theme by straying too far into the fishing and not far enough into the boats.

lugger still afloat, a vessel craftily designed: it needed five men to sail it, the same number as were needed to do the fishing.

In this, the early part of the century, no Common Fisheries Policy had evolved to issue monthly quotas and pay fishermen to set fire to their boats: oh no, these were the bad old days.

A few sceptics did wonder why luggers were built to be so fast and why some of them had hollowedout keels. The answer was that the vessels had to be able to outrun Revenue boats, given the illicit booze in the keel. Smuggling? Shame on you for such a thought.

"It's not smuggling, free trading we called that," announced a Cornish voice. We Cornish have always believed in free trade, the difference being that nowadays we can bring back all the booze we can carry. It's the fish we have to smuggle.

BBC1 6.00am Business Breaklest (29322) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (Ceefax) (50693) 9.00 Breakfast News Extra (Cestax)

9.20 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (s) (3397902) 9.45 Kilroy. Topical discussion (s) (4340506) 10.30 Good Morning (s) (33457) - 10 10

12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (6184983) 12.05pm Turnebout (3) (9635051) 12.30 Soing for a Soing (48761)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Caelar) and weather (53780) 1.30 Regional News and weather (77775148) 1.40 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (34553235): 2.00 Pebble Mili (s) (9822438)

2.40 Snooker — the Masters. Dougle Donnelly introduces live coverage of the second-round matches (s) (2155457) 3.50 ChuckleVision (s) (5129490) 4.10 Free Willy (Ceefax) (s) (6040983) 4.35 Run-the Risk (Ceefax) (s) (5210380) 5.00 Newsround (Ceefax) (1194083) 5.10 Grange Hill (Ceefax) (s) (1852322)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (876186). N.L. 5.35 Inside Uister 6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather

(273) 6.30 Regional News Magazines (\$25) N.L.: 6.30 Neighbours ::

7.00 Holiday. Feeturing reports from the excitic beach resort of Essaculta in Morocco; Guyaria in the Carlobean; a budget family holiday on Spain's Costa Brava and the thrills of hang-gliding in Sussex (Ceetax) (s) (1099) 7.30 EastEnders. Robbie and Sarah's

evening with the Jacksons doesn't go as planned (Ceetax) (s) (709)

8.00 Great Ormond Street. The staff of the intensive care unit battle to save four youngsters: with meniagococcal septicaemia, while the infectious diseases team struggle to understand a mysterious litness affecting a 12-year-old from Pakistan (Caelan) (7419) 8.30 Next of Kin. Maggle and Andrew's plans

for a quiet night in to celebrate their wedding anniversary are disrupted by some unwanted visitors (Ceeted (s)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7344) 9.30 Men Behaving Badly. Tony and Gary tackle the subtle art of seduction (r) (Ceetax) (s) (68525)

10.00 The X Files: Fetnesculets (Cestax) (s) (333341)
10.40 Subwey — Inside Story. The police team who fight crime on the London Underground (r) (Ceetex) (s) (115032) N.L.: 10.40 On Air 11.30 Subwey — Inside Story 12:30-2.00em FILM: The Long Journey Home WALES: 10.40-Wen Behaving Bedly 11.10 Subway — Inside Story 12.10-1.45am FILM: A Perfect Little

11.40 FilM: A Perfect Little Murder (1990) with Ted Gart and Robert Urich. A housewile turns amateur slouth when she overhears her neighbour plotting a murder. Directed by Anson Williams (988631) 1.15am Weather (1002823)

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BBC2 6.00am Open University: Animal Physiology (2107525) 6.25 Oceanography (1731631)

7.15 See Hear Bri signing) (s) (8528254) 7.30 Stingrey (r) (Cectar) (71186) 8.00 Blue Pater (r) (Cectar) (s) (5997379) 8.25 Juniper Jungle (r) (s) (8410186)

8.40 The Record (s) (1197867) 8.40 The Record (s) (1197867)
9.05 Dayltinia on Two: Lemacress (4206780) 9.25 See You, See Me (4226544) 9.45 Wetch (5028380) 10.00, Playdays (6851032) 10.25 Come Outside (8601780) 10.45 The Experimental (7546051) 11.05 Space Ark (8783651) 11.15 Clementine (7283631) 11.90 Ghostwiter (9039) 12.00 See Heat (18032) 12.30pm Working Lunch (79631) 1.00 Teaching Today (51822) 1.30 Showcase (77786490) 1.48 Hotch Potch House (34551877)

2.00 Jumiper Jungle (i) (s) (36761964) 2.10 The Andrew Nell Show (s) (9376544) 3.00 News (Ceefax), regional resus and weather (2191709) 3.05 Westafunster (Ceefax) (s) (4981032) 3.55 News (Ceefax) and weather [1182167).

4.00 Snooker—the Masters. (s) (3148)

6.00 Fresh Prince of Bel Air (s) (845877)

6.00 Fresh Prince of Bel Air (s) (845877)
6.25 Heartbreak High(Ceefad) (s) (750186)
7.10 The Ren and Stimpy Show. Animation (Ceefad) (s) (421631).
7.30 Local Herose: North West. Lest of the series: John, Gough West. Lest of the series: John, American Structure, and identified many rare plants: a bicycle pump and a dispussing jelly are used to demonstrate John Mackereth's pneumatic lake bottom-corp, and, at Helvellyn's summit, John Dalton's Westber experiments are reproduced (Ceefad) (s) (821)
8.00 Rollind: For Pound, Investigating the comparties that daim they can get you out of the negative equity trap (8261)

out of the negative equity trap (8761) a.30 Food and Drink. Tips on preparing roast beef with celerists a teste fast on German wines, and Sandt Toksvig samples a midnight feast on a train in Norway (Ceetax) (s) (7896)

2.60 Wilstewer Happened to the Likely and with Property with Rodney Reves and

James Bolam (i) (Cectex) (8506) The House; High Hopes (Cected (s) (360235)



Tania Wade as Belinda (10.20pm)

Screen : Firsts: Eight for Eight-Thirty (b/W) rs29273) 10.30 Newsmight (Cectax) (940815) 11.15 Spooker - the Masters. Ronnie

O'Sulfivan begins the defence of his title

(s) (B14186) 11.55 Weather (263148) 12.05em The Midnight Hour (s) (6016842) 12.30 -6.00 The Learning Zone

The Decision: The Wrong Body

Channel 4, 9,00pm Prodd, Zaich and Jarad suffer from gender dysphoria. In plan English, this means that they were lifern as girls but have come to realise first fleey are trapped in the wrong body. Taking hoys' names is only the first-step inwards adopting the male gender. For Fredd, who is only 13, the transformation is particularly difficult. He is still at school and being feased by his classmans. Hormones being étased by his classmates. Hormones and surgery are the means towards effecting the change of ser, but in Britain doctors are reluctant to act before patients reach the age of 21. This is not the case in Holland, which leads the field in the study and treatment of transsenials. A two-part documentary, which handles a tricky subject frankly but with sensitivity, follows Fredd, Zach and Jarad on a trip to Amsterdam, to see specialists and discuss the possibilities of sturgery. Part two is next week.

The House: High Hopes BBC2, 9.30pm

The latest bulletin from the Royal Opera. House introduces Peter and Bill, barmen each with 30 years' service but not on speaking terms. Luckily the Crush Bar is long enough for this distance to be amicably maintained. The weightier story features Mike Morris, the director of personnel, as he tries to negotiate a new deal with the stage crews. At stake are old-fashioned working practices not pleasing to the house's accountants. The cameras follow Morris and his union opposite number in an intricate game of cat and mouse. At the Royal Ballet, meanwhile, aspiring 12-year-olds are auditioning for: The Nuturative. If the inaterial is less sensational than in previous programmes, this continues to be a revealing misight into a cumbersome institution trying. msight into a cumbersome institution trying to become lean and efficient.

The X Files BBC1, 10.00pm

This quality series continues to be creepily convincing not only about the future nightmares of science but, even more, about conspiracies of silence in the higher reaches of the United States Government. The two strains, a cracking sci-fi yarn and a sinister official cover-up, are shrewdly mixed in the latest episode. Two lifers escape from a Virginia prison, carrying a contagious disease which has taken the lives of ten of their fellow immates. The task for FBI agents Muider and Scally is to capture the before they infect anybody else. But our heroes uncover an even darker t nvolving collusion between government and big business to suppress the truth. Although they are employed by the FBI, Mulder and Scully stand essentially for the decency and integraty of the ordinary citizen.

Screen Firsts: Eight For Eight-Thirty BBC2, 10.20pm

The slot for young film-makers returns with Tao Stappard's prizewinning short about a dinner party from hell. The hosts are a smug young couple celebrating their plush new pad. The guests are mainly of the same noisy and superior type but with one glaring exception. Lizzie, a shy writer, did not want to come and soon wishes she was somewhere else. Rejecting the wine for mineral water, and unable to hold her own in the vulgar word games which interrupt conversation, she is teased to the point where reficence gives way to aggression. There is often a savage and surreal quality to Stappard's carefully selected black and white images and, with only ten minutes to make its points, the film does not waste a second. The prize was for best drama at the British Short Film Festival. Peter Waymark

WHEN THE PARTY OF 6.00am GMTV (2691896) 9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (s) (3372693) 9.55 Regional Naws (Teletext) (5678709) 10.00 The Time ... the Place (s) (1829728)

10.35 This Morning (15770235) 12.20 Regional News (s) (6180167) 12.30 News and weather (Teletext) (3424902) 12.55 Shortland Street (s) (8152544) 1.20 High Road (Teletext) (84809296)

1.50 Home and Away (r) (Teleted) (95816867) 2.20 Chain Letters (Teletext) (s) (57066438) 2.50 Vanessa (Teletext) (s) (3861780)

3.20 News headlines (Teletext) (2108099)

3.25 Regional News (Teletext) (2190070) 3.20 Hegional News (16882) (2190010)
3.30 The Magic House (s) (1580544) 3.40
Tota TV (s) (3598254) 3.50 Budgle the
Little Helicopter (s) (1551032) 4.05
Tiny Toon Adventures (s) (1188341)
4.30 Cone Zone(Teletaxt) (s) (148) 5.00
Animaniaca (r) (Teletaxt) (s) (3899411)

5.10 Animal Country (8522438) 5.40 News and weather (Teletext) (392709) 6.00 Home and Away (r) (Teletext) (865631) 6.25 HTV News (Teletext) (646326) 7.00 Emmerdale (Teletext) (s) (6167) 7.30 West Eye View. Ray Tostevin previews

the Scott Report on the sales of arms to trac (877) 8.00 The Billi: Stop the Music. DS Beech discovers a body next to a large amount of crack cocaine and no witnesses which

is not good news. (Teletext) (5815) 8.30 Outside Edge. Mim wants a fixture cancelled when she learns that Piggy Pearson's divorced sister will be in attendance (Teletext) (s) (4322)



Brian Dennehy shoots to kill (9.00pm)

9.00 FILM: Blue Heat (1990) starring Brian Dennehy, Joe Pantoliano and Jeff Fahey. An undercover narcotics squad discover a sophisticated drug ring involving the law enforcement hierarchy and the city's most powerful businessmen. Directed by John MacKenzie. Continues after the news (Teletext) (s) (140728)

10.00 News at Ten, weather (Teletext) (46815) 10.30 Regional News (Teletext) (132419) 10:40 FILM: Blue Hest continued. (Teletext)

(s) (6631) 11.40 Prisoner Celi Block H (273815) 12.35 FILM: B.L. Stryker - Grand Theft Hotel (1990) Quirky crime drama starring Burt Reynolds, Loni Anderson and Ossie Davis, Stryker is assigned to protect a priceless piece of jewerlly. Directed by Tony Warmby (721552)

2.20 Late & Loud (s) (2918007) 3.15 The Chart Show (r) (s) (4832194) 4.10 Football Extra (f) (3050033) 5.00 On the Road to the Islands (36620) 5.30 Morning News (34129)

As HITY WEST except: 5.10pm-5.40 On the Road with Elinor (8522438) 6.25-7.00 Wates Torsight (646326)

7.30-8.00 Knowing My Place (877) WEST COUNTRY

As HTV West except: 12.25-12.30 My Story (6198186) 12.55 Emmerdale (3409693) 1.25 Chain Letters (84808167) 1.55-2.25 Home and Away (96266308) 2.25 Vanessa (57065709) 2.55-3.20 A Country Practice (1421326) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (8522438) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (58148)

7.30-8.00 The Middle Ages (877) CENTRAL As HTV West except:

12.55 Home and Away (3409693) 1.25 Chain Letters (84808167) 1.55 A Country Practice (34567438) 2.20 Vanessa (57066438) 2.50-3.20 Look and Cook (3861780) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (8522438) 6.25-7.00 Central News and Weathe

7.30-8.00 Heart of the Country (877) 11.40 Film: The Omega Man (633419) 1.30am Late & Loud (4353945) 2.25 Hotel Babylon (4453620) 3 05 Funny Business (53398129) 3.35 Football Extra (2698216) 4.10 Jobfinder (3570552) 5.20 Asian Eye (1245910)

MERIDIAN ... As HTV West except: 12.55pm-1.25 Chain Letters (3409693) 1.25 Home and Away (84808167) 2.20 Vanessa (57066438)

2.50-3.20 The Afternoon Show (3861780) 5.10 Home and Away (8522438) 5.37-5.40 The Happen (577964) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (341) 6.30-7.00 Surprise Chefs (693)

7.30-8.00 24 Hours (877) 11.35 Prisoner Cell Block H (991709) 5.00am Freescreen (36620)

SEC | Starts: 8.35 Think Tank 88 (5285761) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (76631) 9.00 Fiftsen to One (23964) 9.30 Schools (60983) 9.30 James 60983) 10.10 Maths Everywhere 10.25 lechyd A (8603148) 10.45 Que (9034273) 11.00 Science in Focus (3420544) 11.20 Stage One (7275612) 11.35 Film and Video Showcase (2483544) 11.45 First Edition (2800254) 12.00 House to House (43728) 12.30pm Earthworm Jim (71099) 1.00 Slot Meltirin: ABC (46490) 1.30 Time Team: Navan (56983) 2.30 Screaming Reels (254) 3.00 Love in the Afternoon (8983) 4.00 Backdate (506)4.30 Saved by the Bell: The New Class (490) 5.00 5 Pump: Uned 5 (7273) 5.30 Countdown (970) 6.00 Newyddion (221273) 6.15 Heno (749070) 7.00 Pobol Y Cwm (143341) 7.25 Dudley (318544) 8.00 Pacio (3457) 8.30 Newyddi Place (3457) 8.30 Newyocion (2954) 9.00 O Flaen Dy Lygaid (4273) 10.00 Brookside (44457) 10.30 Cutting Edge: The Treatment (99341) 11.30 Rising Damp: Fire and Brimstone(35896) 12.00am The Decision

6.35am Think Tank (r) (Teletext) (5285761) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (76631)

9.00 Fifteen to One (r) (Teletext) (s) (23964) 9.30 Schools Eureka! (8278803) 9.45 Stop Look Lister (3228308) 10.00 Forways Farm (3353964) 10.10 Maths Everywhere (8617341) 10.25 How We Used to Live (9021709) 10.45 Guest (9034273) 11.00 Science in Focus (3420544) 11.20 Stage One (7275612) 11.35 Film and Video Showcase (2483544) 11.45 First Edition (s) (2800254)

12.00pm House to House (43728) 12.30 Sesame Street (55254) 1.30 Ovide

1.55 One Fine Day. A tribute to America's women's (17850235)

2.00 FILM: Mother Wore Tights (1947). Nostelgic musical about vaudeville stars Betty Grable and Dan Dailey. Directed by

Walter Lang (3544) 4,00 Backdate, Quiz with Valerie Singleton (s) (Teletext) (505) 4.30 Countdown (s) (Teletext) (490) 5.00 The Montel Ifilams Show (s) (Teletext) (2737411) 5.50 Terrytoons (570051)

6.00 The Avengers (r) (Teletext) (49490) 7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) (125761) 7.55 The Slot (468322)

8.00 Ride On. Nicky Campbell discovers the joys of owning an old banger, Alain de Cadenet takes to the skies in a stunt plane in the company of Brendan Walsh, manager of Pink Floyd; and Muriel Gray samples the delights of the Levellers' tour bus (Teletext) (s) (3457)

8.30 Brookside. (Teletext) (s) (2964)



Zach goes to Amsterdam (9.00pm)

9.00 The Decision: The Wrong Body (Teletext) (s) (4273) 10,00 FILM: Switching Parents (1992) starring Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Robert Joy and Kathleen York. True-life drama about a 12-year-old's decision to seek a legal "divorce" from his separated parents. Directed by Linda Otto (878235)

11,45 Nurses: Paco embarks on a lucrative career as a spy (Teletext) (s) (136524) 12,15am Footbali Italia — Mezzanotte. Napoli v Atalanta (331571)

1,15 Next Stop Hollywood: The Heart Of The Deal. Short film following a thirtysomething who re-evaluates his life when two mysterious visitors demand a huge donation (r) (7511755)

1.40 FiLM: Randy Rides Alone (1934, b/w). John Wayne western, with the Duke as an undercover lawman endeavouring to catch a ruthless gang of train robbers. With Alberta Vaughan and Gabby Hayes. Directed by Henry Frazer (1608281)

2.40 The Dispossessed: Strangers in Their Own Land. Focusing on the plight of people uprooted and persecuted in their own country (8993378) Ends at 3.40.

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday Y ONE

Man Boiled Egg and Soldiers (7570) 8.50 Press Your Luck (\$583506) 8.50 Love Connection (\$212273) 9.20 Court TV (4103709 8.50 Oprah Wintery (4191815) (2017/00) 9.50 Oppan Vermey (419/91/01)
18-00 Jeopandy (1861/97) 11.10 Selly
Jessy Rephast (6539983) 12.00 Beechy
(89852) 1.00pan The Waltons (60032) 2.00
Genido (874/19) 3.00 Court TV (5393) 3.30
Oppan Waltons (6512457) 4.15 Undur
(2377/90) 5.00 Sear Trick (6165)-6.00 The (231793) 5.00 Sec 198 (8169) 4.00 1 Simptons (7157) 8.30 Leoperdy (4457) 7.00 LAPO (7815) 7.30 M*A*S*H (3341) 8.00 Prices Stepi (56815) 8.00 Chicago Hope (33081) 10.00 Sec Tesk (49458) 17.00 Law and Order (16273) 12.00 The Late Show (2074755) 12.46 as The Un-touristies (5457533) 1.30 Sibs (73219) 2.00 Na Jack Leop Dec (9656928) 2.00 H2 16x Long Play (8056020)

<u>sky</u> news (11631) 10.30 ABG (Agritine (70896) 11.00 World News and thusiness (93322) 1.30 per CSS News (81490) 2.30 Performent Live (5780) 2.16 Performent Live (5780) 2.16 Performent Live (5780) 2.16 Performent Live (5780) 2.16 Per CFO0 2.15 Parkernant Live (2836515) 6.30 (cop); 2000, 7.30 Spottshe (1963) 8.30 (cop); 2000, 7.30 Spottshe (1963) 8.30 (ap); (2612) 11.30 CBS News (86544) 12.30 ab ABC News (55194) 1.30 Tonight (7755) 2.30 Target (59688) 3.30 Parkernant Replay (23620) 4.30 CBS News (45945) 5.30-6.00 ABC News

SKY MOVIES __ 6.20em Gerilghi (1940) 192819964) 8.00
-Inilianee Roph (1867) (01086) 10.00 A
-Inilianee Roph (1867) (01086) 12.00 One
-Iniliane to Com (1862) (05983) 12.00 One
-Iniliane to Com (1964) 12.00 One
-Iniliane to Com (1964) (1490)
-Iniliane to One (1968) (0250) 8.00
-Iniliane to One (1968) (0250) 8.00 Steples with Strangers (1904) (50364) 5.00 Steples with Strangers (1904) (5039) 10.00 Allater Sactors, Death Train (1994) (840051) 11.40 Sound and Special Love Story (1993) (528915) 1.50x Septrated by Murder (1984) (186910) 2.50-6.00 Toru and We (1983)

Mother (1939) (25895) 8.00 Witness (1985) (20341) 10.00 Gues et Belen (1984) (896893) 11.50 Frances (1982) (84645185) 2.10-3.50em Belle De Jour m967) (373571) THE MOVIE CHANNEL

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00mm Red Gesters (1954) (52322) 2.00
Transformers — the Movie (1968)
(72341) 102.00 WB Any. Gestiensen?
(1953) (52325) 12.00 Desnis (1993)
(82364) 2.00pm Cheywana Warrior
(1994) (21032) 4.00 Transformers — the
Movie (1995) (6032) 6.00. Cegary and
Lacoy: The Return (1994) (10493) 7.30
Special Feeture Heat (6051) 8.00 Desnis
(1993) (6342) 16.00 Desparate Remedies (1993) (237099) 11.35 The Lact Hz
(1993) (879772) 1.10mm C94 (1993)
(8427669) 2.40 Born to Run (1903)
(8427669) 2.40 Born to Run (1903)
(8427669) 4.20 WB Any Gendeman?
(1953) (476113)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL Sky Movies Gold takes over from 10pm

Sty Blovies Gold Water Over Index 1, 1986.

8.00esa Under the Unibreta Tree. (82019935) 8.30 Fraggle Rock (41932167) 7.00 Winnis the Pooh. (97177542) 7.30. Duckates (60051289) 8.00 Chip. In Dela Ressue Rangers (15393709) 8.30 Wonderbard (15340790) 9.00 Denny (62026341) 10.00 Under the Unibreta Tree (41923419) 10.30. Praggle-Rock (1530544) 11.00 Muppet Belbies (8855505) 11.30 Pooh Comer (8855825) 12.30 Ceach Allack (15951806) 12.30 ppm Dumbo's Cross (40244322) 1.00 Wonderland (98527083) 1.30 Young Musicians Symphony-Ominator (19204709) 2.30 Stok with Me. Kid (41588419) 2.30 Winnis the Pooh (98521612) 4.00 Cueck Attack (68517419) 4.30 Duckates (68539831) 8.00 Chip in 4.30 (8852/672) 4,00 Queck-Austr (1957/43) 4,30 Ducksies (8859631) 5,00 Crip in Deie Renoue Rerigers (21890894) 5,30 Deruger Bay (88520803) 6,00 Terzent (88527866) 6,30 Dimosuus: (88518148) 7,00 Thunder Alby (45280790) 7,30 FLM: Yours, Mine and Ours (45183863) 9,30 10,00 Zerro (40264185)

EUROSPORT (1994) (8-0051) 11-40 Sound and 7,90em Speckerchi (29952) 9.30 Live Gargest A Love Story (1993) (528915) Hairion: (3238) 10.30 Footpal. (74439) 1.30 Reprint by Murder (1994) 11-30 Seather (53187) 22.80 Live Bathlon (18691) 2.50-8.00 Tests and We (1993) [73508) 1.00pm Figure Seating (18167) 3.00 Denoing (3228) 5.00 Seating (18167) 6.00 Seating (1993) 5.00 Seating (1993) 7.00 Aerobics (84761) 8.00 Live Bedding (8425) 10.00 Football (1993) 10.00 Football (1993)

SKY SPORTS _

7,00mm Sports Centre (43341) 7.30 Racing (S0145) 8.00 American Sports Cavalcade (8779) 9.80 Aerobics (51996) 9.30 load Hockey (54273) 11.30 Speed and Beauty (80058) 12.00 Aerobics (51032) 12.30 Pm Hingable Boding (80002) 2.30 Terian Edra (28631) 4.00 UK's Strongest Man, from Backgood Aeros (41222 5.00 World Weeting Federation Menie (2902) 8.00 Sports Centre (8863) 8.30 British Raily Championahips (2053) 7.00 World Cup Cricial Preview (21554457) 8.55 Sports Centre (32781) 10.30 British Raily Championahips (58709) 11.00 Sports Centre (32781) 10.30 British Raily Championahips (58709) 11.00 Wolld Cup Cricial Preview (47458) 1.00mm The Footballer's Football Show. Presented by Richard Keys (85674) 2.00-2.00 Sky Sports Centre (13945) CATY SPORT S GOLD 7,00mm Sports Centre (43341) 7,30 Racing SKY SPORTS GOLD

10.00pm Golden Furghy (9895780) 10.30 Golden Gloves with Berry Maguigen 1932/780) 11.30 The Golden Age of Motor Packing 340/1922) 12.30-1.00em Gilletin World Sport Memories: 1688 (6377674) THE CHRISTIAN CHANNEL 4.00mm 1./virg Word 5.00 Kermeth Cope-tand 5.30 Kdz TV 5.46 Chronictes of Revival 6.15 Colin Dys 6.45-7.00 Christian

SKY SOAP 7.00pm Guiding Light (548070) 7.55 As the World Turns (3899883) 8.50 Payton Place (50724525) 10.10-11.00 Another World (5822186)

SKY TRAVEL 11,08em Goberrotter (2321322) 11.30 Trailside (2322051) 12.00 On Top of the Vacid. (989:061), 12.30pm Rallian Cockery (5825411) 1.00 Around the World in 30 Natrudes (5249815) 1.30 Taxed Childs (8279862) 2.00 Six Special (8075865) 3.00 Cataway (8901728) 3.30-4.00 Down Lindar (1563544) THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm The Most Decomand: First Ar. Cavelry of Vietnern (234502) 5.00 The Gangalers — a. Golden Age (5965780) 6.00-7.00 Biography (4275772) THE SCI-FI CHANNEL 7.00pm The Invisible Man (93080254) 8.25-



Bette Davis and Humphrey Bogert face the future (TNT, 8.00pm)

10.00 Fil.M: Man from Planet X (11697636) 1.90ece Inside Space (1746003) 1.30 Sci-fi Suzz (3300649) 2.00 Fil.M: Man from Planet X (\$829129) 3.30-4.00 Night Galley

9.00am Painting (1042815) 9.30 Grow with 9.00ars Painting (1042915) 9.30 Grow with Jos. (4410525) 10.00 Two's. Country [8469459] 10.30 Cur House (1048089) 11.00 The Painted House (5888167) 11.30 Running Repeirs (5889896) 12.00 Julie Cridd (1022051) 12.30pm. The Frugal Gournet (4414541) 1.00 Yen Can Cook (2338506) 1.30 Local Heroes. (4413812) 2.00 Opgration (1858267) 3.30 Two's Secret Gardens (1858467) 3.00 Two's Country. (1805457) 3.30-4.00 This Old House (1858902) House (1833902)

UK GOLD 7.00em Angels (9785053) 7.30 Neighbours (4535360) 8.00 Sore and Daughters (4525360) 8.00 Sore and Daughters (452322) 8.30 EastEnders (102053) 9.00 The 68 (1044273) 9.30 The Self-ens (4412953) 10.00 Howards Way (8135344) 11.00 Juliet Bravo (4795889) 12.00 Sors and Daughters (1031709) 12.30pm Neighbours (4425399) 1.00 EastEnders (

(6926384) 1.30 The 84 (4415070) 2.00 The

Sullivares (11984512) 2.25 Are You Beng Served? (2774070) 3.00 Angels (1807815) 3.00 Edorado (1802023) 4.00 Cesualty (4508235) 5.05 Generation Gerna (2308283) 6.15 Conic Clas (4858544) 6.25 EastEnders (7690419) 7.00 Eldoratio (1999996) 7.30 And Mather Makes Pive (196986) 7.80 Get Some In (9013506) 8.25 Butlerfiles (5392970) 9.00 The Sweeney (6467516) 10.00 The Sk (488051) 10.35 Classic Cup Phai (62805273) 11.40 Micmi Vice (5717631) 12.40am FLM Escape from Fort Bravo (6022945) 2.16-3.30 Shopping (57646552)

Valley High (98341) 8,30 Tim (24761148) 12,35em Tiny TCC (450 NICKELODEON

5.00mm Swen's Crossing (69490) 6.36 Pugeal (87322) 7.00 Ready or Not (26709) 7.30 California Dresma (38544) 8.00 Sweet 2-20 Happily Ever After (7148) 3.00 Sorti The Hedgehog (5490) 3.30 The New Pirk Persiter Show (5693) 4.00 California Dregma (1729) 4.30-5.00 Sweet Valley High

8.00mm Henry's Cat (9751726) 6.15 Blue (\$30457) 6.46 Toucan Tex (886378J) 7.00

Batirik (8544993) 7.05 Grimmy (4540322) 7.45 Rugrass and Doug (485382) 8.15 Asainh Feal Monsters (5517631) 8.30 Rocko's Modern Life (68186) 9.00 Awin and the Chipmunis 9.30 Pee-Wee's Playhouse (66457) 19.00 Benera Sendwich (59902) 11.00 Chicken's BBC (46438) 12.00 Mage School Bus (62902) 12.20pts Grimmy (90273) 1.00 Globel Guts (40254) 1.30 Visionamos (98544) 2.00 Chichen's BBC (41867) 3.00 The Lineat Pet Shop (6984) 3.30 Teerage Mutant Hero Turties (8051) 4.00 The Festal (7180) 4.30 Rugrets and Doug (6070) 5.00 State State (8709) 5.30 Mission Top Sectet (7322) 6.00 Ren and Shmby (4235) 6.30-7.00 Clarista (8815) DISCOVERY 4.00pm Bush Tucker Men (1828709) 4.30 Charle Brava (1818293) 5.00 Classic Wheels (1896709) 6.00 Terra X (1839186) 6.30 Beyond 2000 (9341235) 7.30 Arthur C

 Support 2000 (SS4125s) - SAVATINA CULTURE'S Mystefrois Liniveste (181922) 8.00 Damedevits of the Sky (S445893) 9.00 Societ Weepons (S691631) 9.30 Feelds of Armour (4401877) 10.00 Cleeste Wheels 11.00-12.00 The Fellis BRAVO 12.00 FILM: The Green Man (7845166) 1.30pm Honey West 2.00 Danger Man (8460639) 2.00 The Buccaners (1882963) 3.30 Adventures of William Tel (1837726) 4.00 FILM: Resilies Natives (1803089) 6.00 Dead at 21 (18:5612) 8.30 Automan (9339761) 7.30 The Green Honnet (1813148) 8.00 Space 1999 (649419) 8.00 Alen Nation (645263) 10.00-12.00 FILM: The Legacy (5686709)

PARAMOUNT 7.00pm Beauty and the Beest (77235) 6.00 Entertainment (7693) 8.30 Wings (6726) 9.00 Soap (45149) 9.30 Leverne and Stutey (87709) 10.00 Entertainment (63831) 10.30 Bosom Buddes (49051) 11.00 Picsty /40693) 11.50 Studies 11.00 Pgsty (40ess) 11.30 Statigehermore (2076) 1,230acr The Odd Couple (§1910) 1.00 Wings (68088) 1.30 State (17674) 2.00 (avente and Shaley (11867) 2.30 Emptamment (27194) 3.00 Buddies (84804) 3.80-4.00 Pigsty (14674)

Springer (8269490) 11.00

6.00mm Agony Hour (7948631) 7.00 Kilroy (7033167) 8.00 Esther (9942903) 8.90 Gardenwise (9232344) 9.00 Taste of Wales (9123649) 9.35 Kale and Allie (2895235)

(7223964) 2.45 3 from 1 (2790728) 3.00 Cremetic (7550032) 3.15 Hanging Out (4072544) 4.00 MTV News (2354709) 4.15 Hanging Out (2337032) 4.30 Diet MTV (2070) 5.00 Hanging Out (8683) 5.30 Boom! in the Affection (3322) 6.00 Hanging Out (8685) 6.30 MTV Sports (4815) 7.00 Greatest 181 (22703) 8.00 Utrmate Collection (2045) 9.30 Beavis and Butt-Head (18893) 10.00 MTV News (229781) 10.15 Chemetic (257544) 10.30 Real World London (872361 11.00 The End? Real World London (87235) 11.00 The End? (94341) 12.30mm Videos (1537026) VH-1

7.00em. Power. Broatdest (3245186) 9.00 Cale VH-1 (8564802) 12.00 Heart and Sout (4370326) 1.00pm. The Virty Years (8075934) 2.00 Ten of the Best Cress and Dave (8077983) 3.00 Into the Music (7831167) 6.00 VH-1-2-3 Natalie Cole (2476790) 7.00 VH-1-2-3 Natalie Cole (2476790) 7.00 VH-1-2-3 Natalie Cole (8075984) 7.00 VH-1-2-3 Natalie Cole

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00em Cozen Colyssey (7235) 5.30 Trata (401475) 5.55 Bazmen (675998) 6.30 Catchphrase (2457) 7.00 Travial Pursuit (7099) 7.30 My Two Deds (1341) 8.00 FLM* Hart to Hart Hart to Hort Returns (3815) 10.00 Traesure Hurt (12322) 11.00 Neon Riber (35457) 12.00 Trata (51804) 12.30pm Bordertown (44029) 1.00 Batman (33194) 1.30 Rhode (57262) 2.00 Big Brother Jake (57303) 2.30 Neon Rider (38200) 3.30 Rhode (54262) 4.00 Big Brother Jake (57555) 4.30-5.00 Ocean Colyssey (27587)

6.30mm The Grind (19780) 7.00 3 from 1 (3582490) 7.15 Awake on the Wildside (5812341) 8.00 Music Videos (271544) 11.00 Soul (16322) 12.00 Greenest Hits

(17964) 1.00pm Music Non-Stop (72233964) 2.45 3 from 1 (2790728) 3.00

of the Best Berenaked Ladies (8022099) 10.00 The Viryl Years (8025186) 11.00 Tommy Vance is the Nightily (3428099) 1.00mm Ten of the Best: Strig (3228281) 2.00 Dawn Patrol

Young and Restless (8363419) 11.55
Brookside (7849709) 12.30pm Dangerous
Women (292476) 1.25 Crosswits
(8880166) 2.00 Agony Hour (779687) 3.00
Live at Three (7505322) 4.00 Intellegation UK
(918697) 4.30 Crosswits (8134457) 5.05
Lingo (90351867) 5.30 Lucky Ladders
(9182341) 8.00 Sewitched (9189254) 8.30
Brookside (8277099) 7.05 Machus Jaffrey's
Indian Cookey (8485868) 7.40 The Joker's
Wild (9793896) 8.05 Young and Restless
(1722252) 9.00 FUM: Love on the Run
(21262322) 10.55 Sykaria Waters
(3812235) 11.30-12.00 Sex Lile (8204772) CMT EUROPE Country music from Gam to 7pm on satellite, including 5,00pm Saturday Nile

7,00aca Zee Presents . (43003525) 8.30 Film Chakter (15126322) 9.00 Punjabr FILM: Vanjera (68277039) 12.00 Bunyaad (15137438) 12.30pm Andez (91449335) 1,66 Hindi FILM Panvar (23152438) 4,00 ra Kewal (88556411) 4.00 Doosra II (88556411) 4.30 Nukkad (82156475) 5.00 Zee Zone (34227728) 5.30 Tamil Senes Kannam Pooch (98451967) 6.00 India Business Report (86242090) 6.36 Zee and U (87106970) 7.00 Urdu Senat: Tanheiyarı (573)0761) 8.00 News (34216612) 8.30 Hindi FiLM: Dasy

then TNT time as below. 7.00pm Ali About Bette (29856099) 8.00 Dark Victory (1839) (28836235) 10.00 The Great Lie (1941) (88557964) 12.00 The Angel Ware Red (1860) (57308533) 1.45am The Romantic Englishwoman (1973) (68678567) 3.50-5.00 All About Bette (52605552) CNN/QVC

CNN provides 24-hour news and QVC is PERFORMANCE 7.00pm Tribute to Jehn Coltrarie 9.00 Mccart's La Clemenza Di Tito 12.00-2.00am A Mehler Rectal

BBC MOUTD

News on the hour.
9,15 pm Penorame 9.30 Tomorrow's World
12.15 The Money Programme 1.15 Business Report 1.30 BBC Newshour Asia and
Pacific 2.25 Andiew Nei 3.15 Pangrame
4.30 Food and DmN 5.10 Business Report
5.30 Film 96 8.05 Pangrama 9.30 The
Cottes Stown 12.10 Newsprick 4.65 Clothes Show 12-10 Newshight 4.05

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MOTOR RACING 46

BENETTON REVEL IN A RETURN TO THEIR ROOTS

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 6 1996

Australia receive widespread support for refusal to play match in Sri Lanka

West Indies join World Cup stand

WEST INDIES last night followed Australia's lead by asking for their World Cup match in Sri Lanka to be switched, further undermining the troubled competition that is scheduled to begin next

week. Hours after Australian cricket officials had announced that they would not be sending their team to Colombo, a statement from the West Indies Board of Control revealed that it has requested the World Cup committee to move thematch against Sri Lanka, on February 25, away from the island. Australia, West Indies would rather face the consequences of refusing the fixture than the potential consequences of

playing it. The West Indies squad is at a training camp in Barbados. where some of the players have expressed concerns about going to Colombo. Yesterday morning, having risen to hear the latest developments in Australia and India, the president of the West Indies board, Peter Short, said that the paramount issue was the safety of his players. The board's unambiguous threat to follow the Australians' action was issued vesterday evening.

Pilcom, the joint Pakistan-India-Sri Lanka committee, is now in a fearful mess. Despite Australia's entreaties, Pilcom has declined to countenance switching matches away from Colombo, where 80 people died in a city-centre bombing last week, and must now decide how to handle the decision by two of the leading

teams not to play there. Australia and West Indies may be told that they must games concerned, which would, coincidentally, smooth Sri Lanka's path towards a favourable quarter-final. Conceivably, as Mark Taylor, the

Australia captain, acknowl-



Taylor answers questions in Sydney, where he expressed his relief at Australia's decision not to play in Colombo

edged yesterday, his team and the West Indies could be disqualified. Much the most rational option, utilising available grounds in India to stage the games, seems to have been sacrificed to stubbornness and political grandstanding. It would take an act of judicious

The issues here have little or nothing to do with cricket. Sri

Leading article

standably anxious to avoid giving any signals of weakness against terrorism and, to this end, is effectively seeking cricketers as hostages to for-tune. Pilcom, already facing barely practicable completion schedules on ground improvements and under constant pressure from the television the event prosperous, are equally anxious not to move

the furniture at short notice. These twin motivators brought forth some ripe comments yesterday, none more

striking than those from Lakshman Kadiragamar, the Foreign Minister of Sri Lanka, after his announcement that the Australians, if they would reconsider their position, could expect the type of security normally only offered to visiting heads of state and

would need only to stop in his

He was probably wasting his breath but, undeterred, he said: "Great sportsmen are always under constant threat from lunatics and psychopaths. Being a sportsman is not a cakewalk but, eventually, it is the viewing public that matters. You try not to let them down. Despite the Munich massacre, the Australians took part in the Olympics. It must be too much of a courageous act for today's sportsmen to take part in a

As if this tub-thumping was not enough to alienate further then ridiculed the fears of Shane Warne that he could be a casualty of a bombing while out shopping in Colombo. "Where is the time to shop during a one-day match?" asked the politician, adding scornfully: Shopping is for

match in Sri Lanka

cissies." No one is under greater stress, with the opening ceremony only five days distant, than the convener of Pilcom,

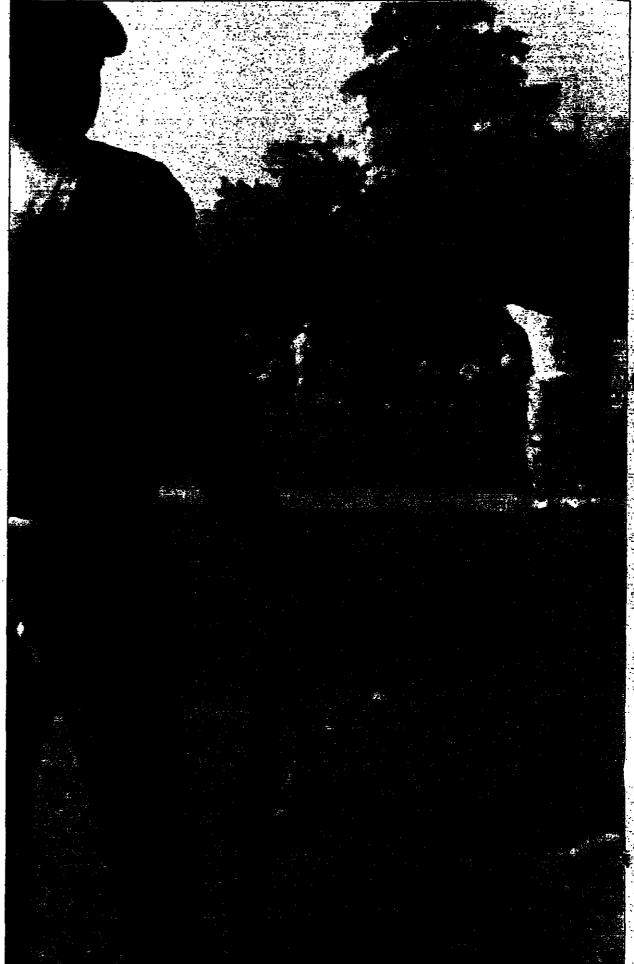
Jagmohan Dalmiya. He is deserving of sympathy, though he may regret his illtralian request for a venue switch. "We have considered it carefully," he said, "and the situation does not warrant a change." Given the sensitiv ities between Australia and Sri Lanka even before the bombing last week, one wonders ouite what circumstances Dalmiya would require before

agreeing to a change. The Australian board, while under no illusions about the seriousness of its latest move, cannot be blamed for its caution. Taylor explained: There was no lobbying of the ACB by the players. The board has made a unanimous decision which took it out of our hands." Taylor admitted to being "relieved", an emotion shared by Warne, who asked

is it worth risking our lives? Australia are due to revisit Sri Lanka in August for a three-Test tour but the political unrest would need to have calmed considerably for that series to go ahead. Yesterday, Leicestershire, who had arranged a pre-season trip to Sri Lanka next month, cancelled it, while from Lahore, where England are warming up for the competition, Raymond Illingworth, the team manager, spoke supportively of the Australian stance

"You have to feel sympathy for what they have done," Illingworth said. "It would have been a difficult situation for us if we had been due to play in Colombo." England do play in some sensitive areas, and in both Peshawar and Karachi they will be heavily guarded and advised not to eave their hotels. However the assistant manager. John Barclay, said yesterday that he was satisfied with the Pakistani security arrangements.

tries debate where and whether to play. England's concerns yesterday extended only to where they might take refreshments. Their first game in Pakistan, against the United Arab Emirates on February 18, falls in Ramadan, the Muslim month of fasting, and they have been told that, when drinks intervals fall due, they must take them out of public view in the dressing-room.



Tight security is in evidence in Lahore yesterday as England's cricketers begin their World Cup preparations

No 697

Colour prejudice (6)

4 Push-chair (5)

5 Meadow (3)

3 Greater influence, power

6 SE Asian people: sounds

12 Portable weapons (5,4)

16 Put into battle formation (6)

18 Attendant: its house fell

14 Take for granted (6)

15 Trite expression (6)

21 Horse; keep on at (3)

- Anger: fashion craze (4) 3 (Bland) food (for the mind)
- 8 Conspire: condone (7) 9 Holy Cup, quested for (5) 10 Cloven (5)
- 11 Long journey (of Ulysses)
- 13 Shocker of a play (9) 17 Torpor: oppressive calm (7) 19 Ointment; - Regina (hymn)
- 20 Simple job: certainty (5) 22 Number symbol (7)

- 23 Prepare for (fencing) attack!
- 24 Guessing game (1.3)

- ACROSS: 5 Reggae 7 Officut 9 Knee-jerk II Helm 12 Riser 13 Petite 15 Dismal 17 Wrack 19 Snag 20 Fall flat 22 Clever
- DOWN: 1 Broker 2 Fete 3 Bookie 4 Stem 6 Guesstimate 8 Crestfallen 10 Jorum 14 Towel 16 Afford 18 Kithag 19 Sack
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Housewife's choice is to conquer the world

By EDWARD GORMAN

YOU have to admire the woman's pluck. As she said herself yesterday, at one of the more bizarre press conferences followers of the Whitbread Round The World Race have experienced, she is hardly a renowned international racing sailor. But that is not going to stop Jacky MacGillivary from skippering an entry in yachting's premier racing event this year.

She did not pretend to be anything other than an enthusiastic and very optimistic amateur.

"I'm sorry I'm not one of the well-known, high-profile names usually associated with the Whitbread," she told a press conference at the Royal Thames Yacht Club in Knightsbridge, central London, where the Sussex Challenge was formally launched yesterday. "But I am someone with the guts, the determination and, more important-

ly, the will to win. "I'm the ordinary average housewife mother-of-two. woke up one morning and said 'Gosh, it's a nice day - I'll do the Whitbread.

Her sailing CV includes an Atlantic crossing with a blind crew and she has more than 500,000 racing and cruising miles under her keel.

Among those on board will be her husband, David, whose job, according to briefing documents handed out yesterday, will be to "protect the crew from the skipper", and Maureen Polhill, 45, who has run a hairdressing salon in Worthing for the past seven years.

Ireland seek continuity with McCarthy at helm

AFTER weeks of speculation, Mick McCarthy, the Millwall manager, was yesterday confirmed as manager of Ireland in succession to Jack Charlton. His appointment was announced at a press conference

here yesterday afternoon.

"Mick had an excellent career, has a superb background, he was a widely experienced player, is an experienced manager and we are excited that he has agreed to join with us," Louis Kilcoyne, the president of the Football Association of Ireland (FAI). said. "There is a difficult road ahead, but it's the dawn of a new era for Irish football, and an exciting prospect for Mick."

hardly a surprise. As Kilcoyne conceded, several names were discussed initially when the FAI were looking for a manager with a higher profile than McCarthy, but moves for Alex Ferguson. Howard Wilkinson and Joe Royle were blocked by their clubs.

So, ultimately, was a move for Kenny Dalglish, who had widespread support. Although Dave Bassett and Kevin Moran both impressed in a round of interviews, McCarthy. Charlton's captain for most of his 57 caps, was the favourize even before Joe

Kinnear withdrew last week. "It's a job I've always wanted and I'm looking forward to " McCarthy said after being offered the job at his meeting with the FAI executive. "It is an exciting prospect, but it is a bit of a daunting one as well following on the years of success that we've had. But that can't deter me from what I want to do. which is to have a go at it and try to qualify for

the World Cup in France." McCarthy's contract initially ends in two years, taking him up to those World Cup finals. He is under no illusions about the requirements of the job.

"If we get to France, they'll probably be talking about me being here for ten years. If we don't, I could be on the next ferry out of Dun Laoghaire," be said. McCarthy will, at least, waste no time in taking up his post. Tomorrow he flies to Malta to watch Russia, who will visit Lansdowne Road at the end of March, which is when he will meet his own

Faustino Asprilla's £6.7 million move from Parma to Newcastle United could still go ahead, the Italian dub's lawyer said yesterday. Leandro Cantamessa put the problems . surrounding - the transfer down to "mis standings" about the deal and Asprilla's fitness.

squad. Lack of knowledge of his own team, however, should not be too much of a

McCarthy has played with many of them, his last game for Ireland coming in 1992, and since then he has stayed close to the Ireland scene, talking regularly to Charlton. He watched their last two matches under Charlton, the defeats by Portugal and Holland at the end of last year, which brought Charlton's ten years in charge to an untimely

Following Charlton, who transformed the status of the game in Ireland as well as that of the national team, is not

easy. Chariton's team quali-fied for two World Cups and the 1988 European championship, raising expectations possibly beyond realism. McCarthy will have to try to

meet them with a team many observers think is in decline. "Some of the players are ageing and I will have to have talk with them about how they feel. But it is also exciting to find new players and to try to produce a team capable of competing in the way we did," McCarthy said.

One player he is likely to try to persuade to make himself available for Ireland is Chris Armstrong, the Tottenham Hotspur striker. Armstrong is eligible for Ireland because of an Irish grandmother and he had been approached by Chariton a year ago, without success. Yet, as one of McCarthy's former players at Millwall, the manager clearly feels it would be worth having another try.

McCartiny's appointment is, in many ways, a vote for continuity, with some commentators dubbing the Barnsley-born McCarthy son of Jack". Both are tall, both were uncompromising centre haives from mining backgrounds, but behind the bluff exteriors there are differing philosophies. I probably had more rows with Jack than anyone," McCarthy said. His approach at Millwall certainly speaks for different views on

Yesterday he suggested that. depending on the players available, he might play with a sweeper, an approach that Charlton would not consider.

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